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ABSTRACT

Because General Educational Development (GED) graduates in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, were in need of an association to encourage their further educational development and enhance their newly established feelings of self-worth, an alumni association was formed. Within this peer group, alumni vented frustrations, obtained special training, learned job search skills, worked with career counselors, organized social activities, and further promoted GED activities and stature in the community. The target audience was the graduates of GED programs in the county. Activities to establish the organization included recruitment and public relations. Activities conducted by the group included an alumna speaker, creation of a logo and a pamphlet describing the group, questionnaires, meetings, newsletters, writing workshop, graduations, job search helps, kid connections, a mid-winter conference, promotion of adult education legislation, and dropout prevention efforts. After the 10-month project, the group was firmly established and was prepared to function autonomously in the future. (KC)

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ED269623

Final Report:

ESTABLISHMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
OF A MIFFLIN COUNTY
GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

By

Carol Molek, Project Coordinator

Tuscarora Intermediate Unit #11
R.D. #1, Box 70-A
McVeytown, PA 17051

June 27, 1986
PDE 310 Project: PA '86-98-6032 $4500

Pennsylvania Department of Education
333 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

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ESTABLISHMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
OF A MIFFLIN COUNTY
GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Abstract

ESTABLISHMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF A MIFFLIN COUNTY GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

PDE 310 Project: PA '86-98-6032 Duration of Project: 8/26/86-6/27/86
Funding: $4500 Sponsoring Agency: Tuscarora Intermediate Unit #11
Director: Kenneth Calkin R.D. #1, Box 70-A
Coordinator: Carol Molek McVeytown, PA 17051

Description: It is hoped that this report will provide a model for adult education staff and GED alumni in creating GED alumni associations. The establishment and development of the alumni group for graduates in Mifflin County was well received and supported. GED graduates were in need of an association to encourage their further educational development and enhance their newly established feelings of self worth. The alumni association gave graduates needed emotional and educational support. Within a peer group, alumni vented frustrations, obtained special training, learned job search skills, worked with career counselors, organized social activities and further promoted GED activities and stature in the community.

Objectives: Objectives of the Mifflin County GED Alumni Association included: establishing a meeting center for Mifflin County GED graduates at the Juniata-Mifflin Counties Area Vocational-Technical School; meeting individual's needs (approximately 75 participants) by creating a supportive environment to allow personal and group goals to be met; establishing a sense of pride and achievement in receiving a GED diploma; providing a favorable environment for adult education in the community; obtaining career information; helping other GED students; actively recruiting new participants for alumni association and for GED study.

Project Target: Those individuals who achieved a GED diploma in Mifflin County were the target audience. The project focused on graduates of county ABE/GED training programs and expanded to include any GED graduates. The association of GED graduates from our training program as well as others was mutually beneficial.

Method of Evaluation: Evaluation was conducted mid-year and the end of the project by administrators to assure that each specific goal was achieved. The long term evaluation of the project will be based on how well the alumni association can function autonomously in the future.

Introduction

This report documents all pertinent data concerning the establishment and development of the Mifflin County GED Alumni Association.

The project operated from August 26, 1985 to June 27, 1986. The location of the program was the Adult Education Tuscarora Intermediate Unit Center at the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School in Lewistown, PA. The Adult Center housed several adult programs during this time frame: PDE 306 ABE and GED, JTPA ABE/GED Programs, JTPA Job Search Programs, as well as the Alumni project. The sponsoring agency for the program was the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit #11, McVeytown, PA.

The Alumni project evolved from a need that was apparent in the Adult Center's students. Graduates of the Center's programs had grown accustomed to a supportive learning environment and were reluctant to leave it. Just when they had made a major accomplishment and wished to continue in a positive direction, students felt cut off from further associations with the educational environment. They often became extremely isolated in their need to share feelings about their new status. Many were afraid of slipping back into non-productive patterns of activity. They felt their sense of self-worth and accomplishment slipping away. Establishing an Alumni group allowed students to continue a connection with the Center and to continue the learning process.

The needs of our graduates were met by the Alumni Association. Within the confines of such an organization, graduates received needed emotional and educational support, vented frustrations, obtained special training, learned job search skills, worked with our counselor, organized social activities, and further promoted GED activities and stature in the community.

The establishment and development of the alumni group for GED graduates in Mifflin County was well received and supported. The graduates of our GED preparation classes, as well as other GED diploma recipients, were in need of an association to encourage their further educational development and to uphold their newly established feelings of self-worth. The association of graduates from our training programs as well as other GED graduates was of mutual benefit. Students with different GED experiences found they had a common bond.

Staff contributing to this project were Tuscarora Intermediate Unit #11 personnel: Kenneth Calkin, Project Director; Carol Molek, Project Co-ordinator; William Ryan, Counselor; and Ginger Shade, Secretary.

This report is directed towards: adult education supervisors, instructors, counselors, GED Alumni, and GED students. It is hoped that the information and the example provided will serve as a model for other agencies wishing to establish an Alumni Association for their centers.

Permanent copies of the report are on file with the Pennsylvania Department of Education, 333 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333; and AdvancE, Pennsylvania Department of Education Resource Center, Department of Education, 333 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333.

Objectives for the project as stated in the proposal included: establishing a meeting center for Mifflin County GED graduates at the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School; meeting individual's needs by creating a supportive environment to allow personal and group goals to be met; establishing a sense of pride and achievement in receiving a GED diploma; providing a favorable environment for adult education in the community; further enhancing skills, obtaining career information; helping other GED students; actively recruiting new participants for the alumni association and for GED study.

Specific details of the success of program objectives follow.

Objectives

Objectives as specified in the proposal were achieved:

1. To establish a center for GED alumni and in so doing to promote growth of an adult development center at the Juniata-Mifflin Counties Area Vocational-Technical School with the potential for developing more programs to benefit adults of Mifflin County.

The Center at the Vo-Tech School has grown this year. Plans for next year include expansion of programs from 7 to 12 plus further coordination with the Vo-Tech School Adult Education program.

2. To meet the needs of approximately seventy-five (75) local GED alumni by creating a supportive environment in which persons can work together to achieve individual and group goals.

As the school year concluded there were over 200 members of the Alumni Association.

3. To establish a sense of pride and achievement in receiving a GED diploma expressing this sense of accomplishment in various ways such as: successful graduates speaking at 2 graduation ceremonies (in December '85 and June '86), producing a newsletter (2 issues - fall and spring) including success stories.

The sense of pride in receiving a GED diploma was greatly enhanced in these activities. Graduation addresses by alumni are included (see "Graduations"). Our "Never Too Late" Newsletter, planned for approximately 6 pagaes, grew to 14 (see "Newsletters").

4. To provide a favorable environment for Adult Basic Education in the community by seeking publicity in the media for successful individuals and programs. The goal is to produce at least two (2) newspaper articles and four (4) radio announcements promoting adult education in Mifflin County.

One of our greatest successes this year was the firm establishment of the Association as a community organization. This was accomplished by creating positive linkages with other Community Based Organizations and by creating a cooperative working relationship with the media. During the year at least

10 newspaper articles were published (see "Public Relations/Media") and radio announcements were on local stations several times each month.

5. To promote the value of a GED diploma by securing its recognition in busines, industry, the military, and higher education.

Various coordination was established within this category. It is difficult to measure how the value of the GED diploma was increased in these areas. However, just the fact that so many of our alumni are continuing their education, becoming employed or entering the military will help better the GED image in our society. A close relationship with the local Navy recruiter succeeded in assisting several people with their goal of entering the military. 22 alumni entered training or higher education programs. 25 alumni became employed or advanced in their jobs.

6. To maintain an updated mailing list of Mifflin County graduates. When individuals complete testing at the test center, they will be given a card inviting them to join the association. Follow-up by phone or mail will be conducted.

The Alumni Association has a good working relationship with the Mifflin County School District, GED testers for this area. Each month the school district forwards a list of those completing testing. This list includes not only people who have been enrolled in our programs but also those who have tested without classes. The test administrator distributes an enrollment form and Alumni pamphlet to those finishing the test. Our staff contacts all graduates by mail and phone.

7. To conduct job search information and career counseling and promote good attitudes and motivation towards work. Members will be encouraged to enroll in training for job search skills.

Alumni eligible for JTPA programs were encouraged to enter the JTPA sponsored Job Search Program at the Center. 20 alumni did so and 16 were positively terminated. Other alumni participated in an alumni sponsored mini-job search workshop.

> 8. To help current GED students by tutoring and encouraging them in their pursuit. The goal will be to have ten (10) alumni tutors working with GED students who express a need for such assistance.

This is one goal which was not achieved and which will be a priority for fall '86. Two alumni did tutor GED students successfully.

> 9. To have alumni actively recruit GED students by: public speaking, personal contacts, working with literacy council and transitional students, contacting specific groups or individuals not normally reached (the elderly, inmates, people living in rural areas, displaced homemakers) in order to encourage them to overcome obstacles barring them from pursuing their GED's.

Our GED alumni truly became emissaries this year promoting the idea of adult education in our community. One alumna addressed the Intermediate Unit's board and received a hearty ovation. Another spoke at a local business school. Active members of the group talked informally whenever an opportunity arose. As a result, our enrollment soared well above plans: in our 306 ABE program - 30 planned, 64 enrolled; in our 306 GED program - 40 planned, 60 enrolled; in our JTPA ABE/GED program - 48 planned, 66 enrolled.

We anticipate that our final and most important objective will also be achieved. It is our hope that our Alumni Association will not fade away with the end of this project. Participants in the program, because of many strong leadership capabilities give us very high hopes for the Association's future.

Detailed plans are included in the conclusion of this report.

The Beginning: Organization, Recruitment, Public Relations for the Mifflin County GED Alumni Association

Organization and Recruitment

In January 1985 staff and GED students of our Center began talking about the possibility of starting a local alumni association. With the proposal for this program submitted, our interest sign up sheet was distributed at our May '85 graduation ceremony. Twenty-five students expressed an interest in this activity. These students provided us with our initial contact list at the beginning of the '85-'86 school year.

We planned our first meeting for September 23, 1985. In preparation for this meeting, we contacted by mail and follow-up phone call all graduates since February '84 of our programs. We also placed newspaper, radio and TV ads. The response to the first meeting was less than overwhelming. About 10 people attended. This was disappointing especially since so many of our students expressed such interest the previous spring. From this we learned an important lesson: the best way to recruit members is to involve people immediately upon completing their GED's or soon thereafter. We began doing this with our first graduates this year in October and have continued this practice throughout the school year.

Even though our attendance was low at this first meeting, those participating were all enthusiastic and active and have developed into fine leaders. They were the initiators of much that was to come about this year.

Further recruitment came from a list of over 400 GED graduates in Mifflin County for the last 2 years. The Mifflin County School District provided us with this list. We did a mass mailing to this list followed up witih phone calls by our active alumni.

Word of mouth played an important part in the recruitment of members. Our staff encouraged alumni to use networking techniques to increase membership.

With each meeting our membership and attendance grew. Presently there are over 200 members of the Association; there are approximately 50 active members.

Follow-up communication cannot be emphasized enough as a reason for our Association's success. Alumni spent hours on the phone recruiting new members. Letters were written for every meeting and activity and were then followed up by phone calls.

At the time of the first meeting it was established that Monday night would be "Alumni Night" at our Center. One Monday a month a semi-formal meeting would be conducted; the other Monday nights counseling, informal socializing, and workshops would be held. This was the structure we maintained from October through May.

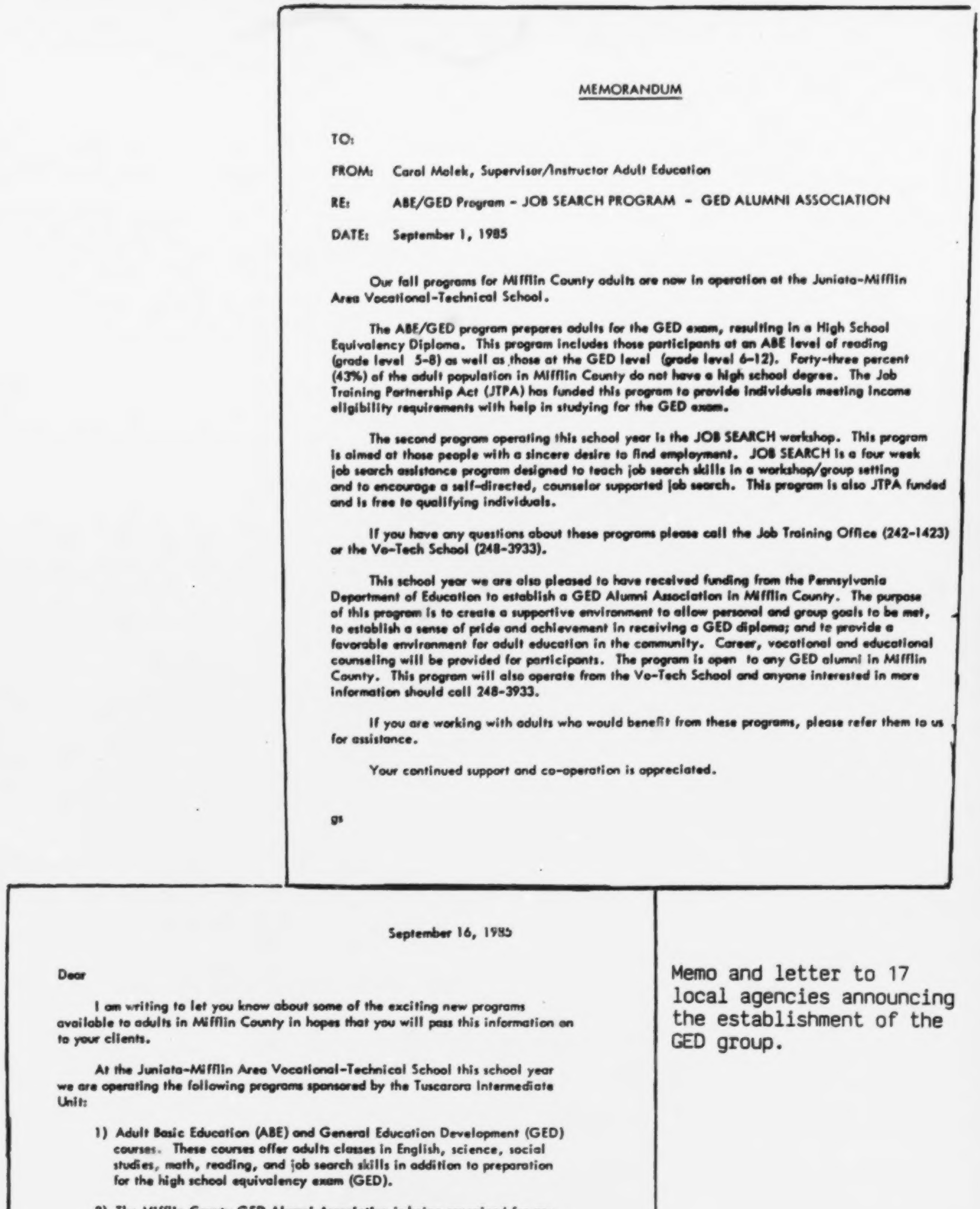
From this consistently active group a core of KEY people were established. Since the group was so diverse and many people did not know everyone, we decided to delay the election of officers until April. The KEY members provided leadership for members through the year.

Public Relations

One of the most time consuming and intensified features of creating and developing our local Alumni Association was our public relations campaign. After our 310 proposal was accepted press releases were sent to the media. Also a letter describing this program and others offered at the Center was sent to all local agencies. Phone contacts were made as follow ups. Throughout the project we had excellent coverage in the local media. Without this coverage the Alumni Association would not have been nearly as effective.

For each monthly meeting and each alumni activity all avenues of media coverage were pursued: 2 local newspapers, 3 local radio stations, 1 public service TV station. Also we had a wide distribution of posters, pamphlets, and flyers. Perhaps in part by the sheer power of repetition, the alumni group became more and more known in the community.

Each method of contact with the public was effective and each had distinct advantages of its own. However, the most effective method of developing good public relations and of recruitment was personal contact in our Center.



MEMORANDUM

TO:

FROM: Carol Molek, Supervisor/Instructor Adult Education

RE: ABE/GED Program - JOB SEARCH PROGRAM - GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

DATE: September 1, 1985

Our fall programs for Mifflin County adults are now in operation at the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School.

The ABE/GED program prepares adults for the GED exam, resulting in a High School Equivalency Diploma. This program includes those participants at an ABE level of reading (grade level 5-8) as well as those at the GED level (grade level 6-12). Forty-three percent (43%) of the adult population in Mifflin County do not have a high school degree. The Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) has funded this program to provide individuals meeting income eligibility requirements with help in studying for the GED exam.

The second program operating this school year is the JOB SEARCH workshop. This program is aimed at those people with a sincere desire to find employment. JOB SEARCH is a four week job search assistance program designed to teach job search skills in a workshop/group setting and to encourage a self-directed, counselor supported job search. This program is also JTPA funded and is free to qualifying individuals.

If you have any questions about these programs please call the Job Training Office (242-1423) or the Vo-Tech School (248-3933).

This school year we are also pleased to have received funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Education to establish a GED Alumni Association in Mifflin County. The purpose of this program is to create a supportive environment to allow personal and group goals to be met, to establish a sense of pride and achievement in receiving a GED diploma; and to provide a favorable environment for adult education in the community. Career, vocational and educational counseling will be provided for participants. The program is open to any GED alumni in Mifflin County. This program will also operate from the Vo-Tech School and anyone interested in more information should call 248-3933.

If you are working with adults who would benefit from these programs, please refer them to us for assistance.

Your continued support and co-operation is appreciated.

gs

September 16, 1985

Dear

I am writing to let you know about some of the exciting new programs available to adults in Mifflin County in hopes that you will pass this information on to your clients.

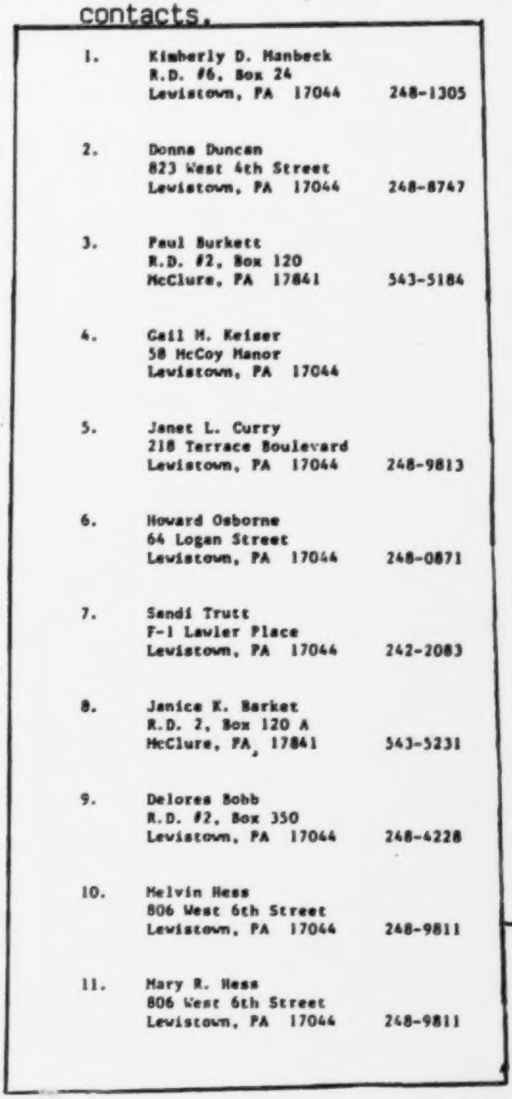
At the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School this school year we are operating the following programs sponsored by the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit:

1) Adult Basic Education (ABE) and General Education Development (GED) courses. These courses offer adults classes in English, science, social studies, math, reading, and job search skills in addition to preparation for the high school equivalency exam (GED).

2) The Mifflin County GED Alumni Association is being organized for any resident who has received his GED diploma. Participation in the Association will encourage further educational development and uphold participants' newly established feelings of self worth. Graduates can receive special training, learn job search skills, work with a career counselor as well as plan social activities and produce an alumni newsletter. Meetings will be held monthly and special interest groups will meet more frequently.

Memo and letter to 17 local agencies announcing the establishment of the GED group.

Example of alumni listing. This list was copied and divided among active alumni for our phone contacts.



1. Kimberly D. Manbeck
R.D. #6, Box 24
Lewistown, PA 17044 248-1305

2. Donna Duncan
823 West 4th Street
Lewistown, PA 17044 248-8747

3. Paul Burkett
R.D. #2, Box 120
McClure, PA 17841 543-5184

4. Gail M. Keiser
58 McCoy Manor
Lewistown, PA 17044

5. Janet L. Curry
218 Terrace Boulevard
Lewistown, PA 17044 248-9813

6. Howard Osborne
64 Logan Street
Lewistown, PA 17044 248-0871

7. Sandi Trutt
F-1 Lawler Place
Lewistown, PA 17044 242-2083

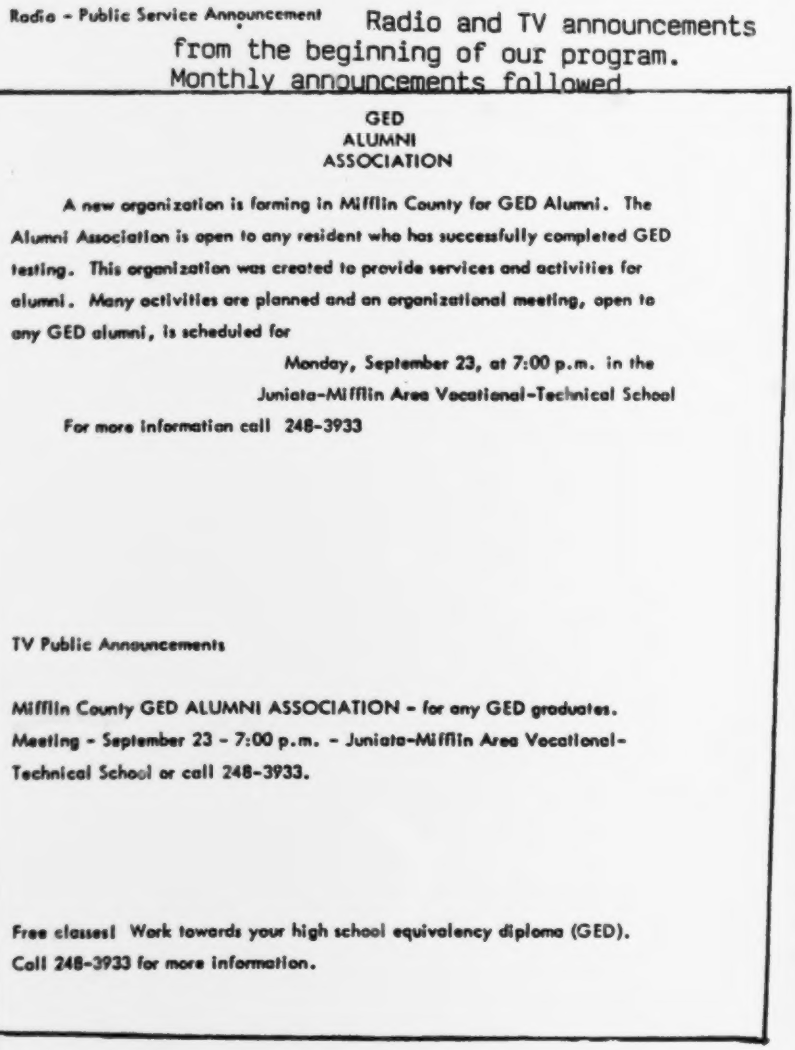
8. Janice K. Barket
R.D. 2, Box 120 A
McClure, PA 17841 543-5231

9. Delores Bobb
R.D. #2, Box 350
Lewistown, PA 17044 248-4228

10. Melvin Hess
806 West 6th Street
Lewistown, PA 17044 248-9811

11. Mary R. Hess
806 West 6th Street
Lewistown, PA 17044 248-9811

Radio and TV announcements from the beginning of our program. Monthly announcements followed.



Radio - Public Service Announcement

GED
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

A new organization is forming in Mifflin County for GED Alumni. The Alumni Association is open to any resident who has successfully completed GED testing. This organization was created to provide services and activities for alumni. Many activities are planned and an organizational meeting, open to any GED alumni, is scheduled for

Monday, September 23, at 7:00 p.m. in the
Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School

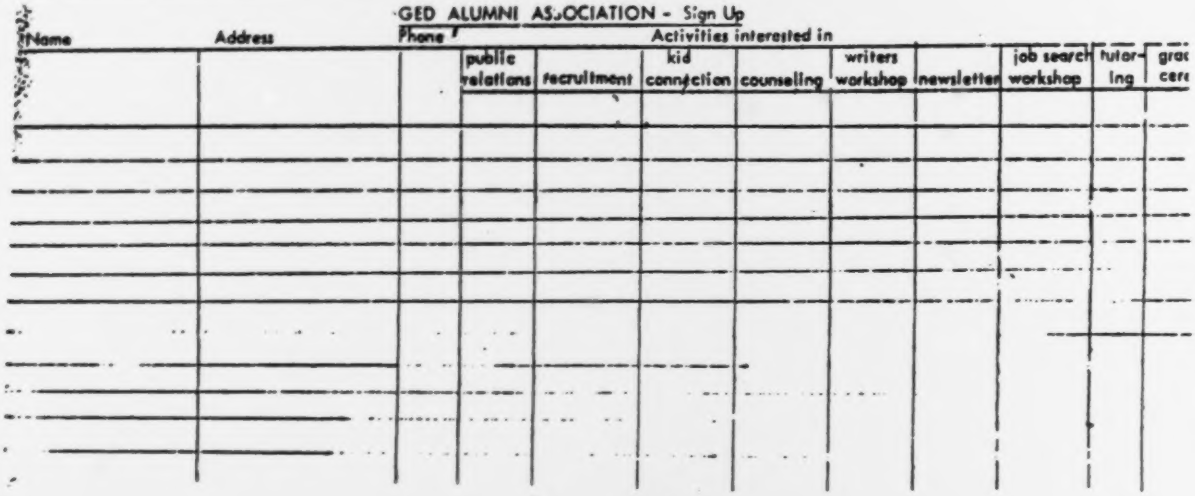
For more information call 248-3933

TV Public Announcements

Mifflin County GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION - for any GED graduates. Meeting - September 23 - 7:00 p.m. - Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School or call 248-3933.

Free classes! Work towards your high school equivalency diploma (GED). Call 248-3933 for more information.

Meeting sign up sheet gave us a record of who attended and their interest areas.



GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION - Sign Up

Name	Address	Phone #	Activities interested in public relations	recruitment	kid connection	counseling	writers workshop	newsletter	job search workshop	tutoring	grac cer

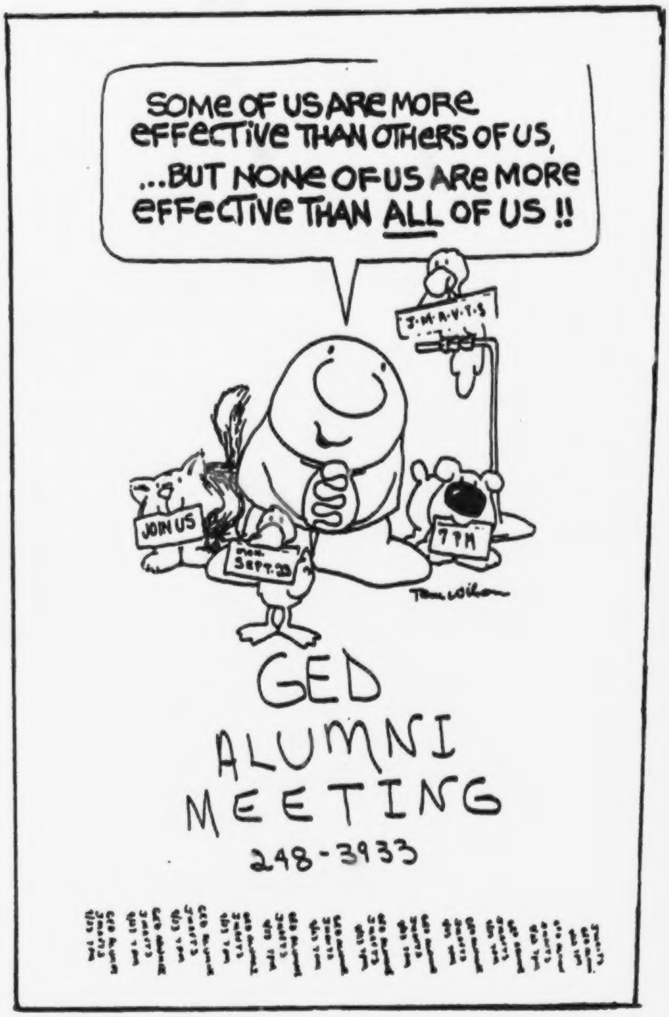
Recruitment posters were distributed widely throughout the county.

GED
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Are you a GED GRADUATE?
a Mifflin County Resident?
If so, this is the organization for you.

Join us and learn what the
GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
can do for you.

For more Information Call:
248-3933


SOME OF US ARE MORE EFFECTIVE THAN OTHERS OF US, ...BUT NONE OF US ARE MORE EFFECTIVE THAN ALL OF US !!
J·M·A·V·T·S
JOIN US
MON. SEPT. 23
7 PM
GED
ALUMNI
MEETING
248-3933

Membership card of bright yellow gave participants a real feeling of belonging to this group.

GED
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

____________________ is a member of the Mifflin County GED Alumni Association having successfully completed GED testing on__________ and joining the organization on__________.

Carol Molek
Carol Molek, Co-ordinator

ADULT EDUCATION TIU CENTER

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAM
GENERAL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT (GED) CLASSES
JOB SEARCH COUNSELING AND WORKSHOPS
GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

CALL US!

SAME PLACE: JUNIATA-MIFFLIN AREA VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL LIBRARY

NEW PHONE: (717) 248-4942

DAYS:
MONDAY - THURSDAY 8:00 am-4:00 pm
FRIDAY 8:00 am-3:00 pm

EVENINGS:
MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY 6:30-9:30 pm

NEW NUMBER
248-4942

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Flyer - sent to all of our Center's alumni.

Announcing ....

GED
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

The 1985-86 school year marks the beginning of the first GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION in Mifflin County. This is an organization created to provide services and activities for any Mifflin County resident who has attained his GED diploma.

JOIN US

An organizational meeting will be held

Monday, September 23, at 7:00 p.m. in the library of
the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School

At this meeting we will elect officers and set up goals and activities for this year. Possible activities for the year include:

- Sponsoring 2 GED Graduation Events
- Publishing a GED Newsletter
- Education and Career Counseling
- Tutoring other adults
- Promoting adult education in Mifflin County

Come and show your pride in your accomplishment of achieving your GED and learn what your Alumni Association can do for you.

Call Carol Molek 248-3933 if you have any questions.

Phone scripts used by alumni when contacting over 400 Mifflin County School District GED alumni.

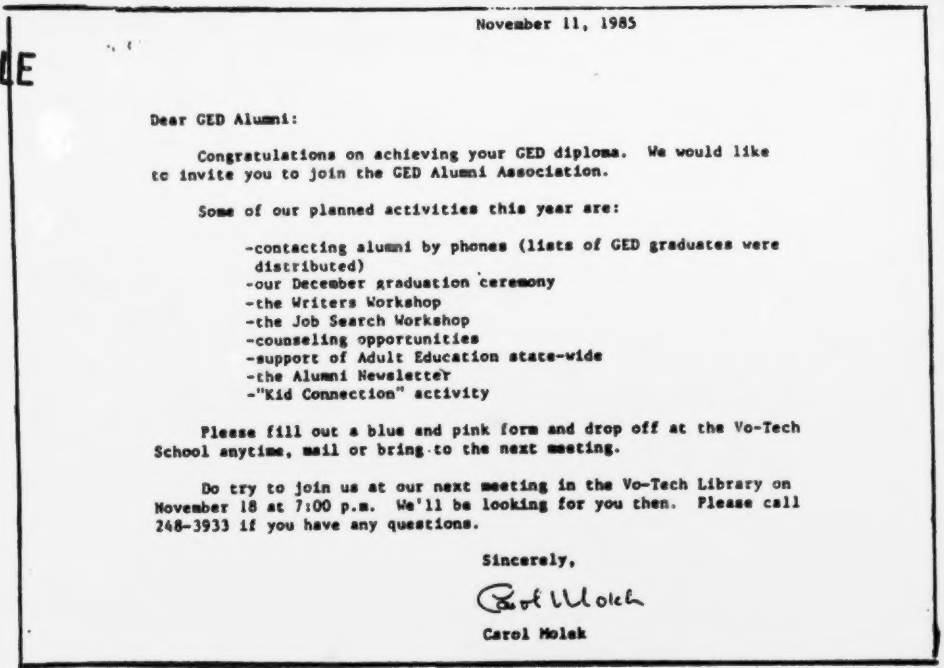
Hello, this is __________. I'm calling about the GED Alumni Association. Awhile back we mailed you a registration form to join, since we hadn't heard from you we wanted to know if we should add you to our membership list. You won't be under an obligation to participate in any acitvities unless you want to; however, by becoming a member we put you on our mailing list to receive the Alumni newsletter and a membership card. May we add you to our list?

Do we have your correct mailing address? Our next meeting is November 18 at 7 p.m. in the Vo-Tech Library. We'd love to see you then. Thank you.

Hello, this is ______________. I'm calling about the GED Alumni Association. We got your name from the Mifflin County School District as a GED graduate, and we're hoping you would like to join the Alumni Association. This group meets once a month at the Vo-Tech School and offers services such as counseling, social activities, a job search skills and a writers workshop. Our next meeting is November 18 at 7 p.m. and we hope you can come.

If you're not interested in actively participating at this time, we would still like to send you a membership card and have you on our list of members. We will also send you our Alumni newsletter and other information we receive. Is that ok with you? Do we have your correct mailing address? Thank you for your time and we hope to see you November 18.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE


November 11, 1985

Dear GED Alumni:

Congratulations on achieving your GED diploma. We would like to invite you to join the GED Alumni Association.

Some of our planned activities this year are:

- contacting alumni by phones (lists of GED graduates were distributed)
- our December graduation ceremony
- the Writers Workshop
- the Job Search Workshop
- counseling opportunities
- support of Adult Education state-wide
- the Alumni Newsletter
- "Kid Connection" activity

Please fill out a blue and pink form and drop off at the Vo-Tech School anytime, mail or bring to the next meeting.

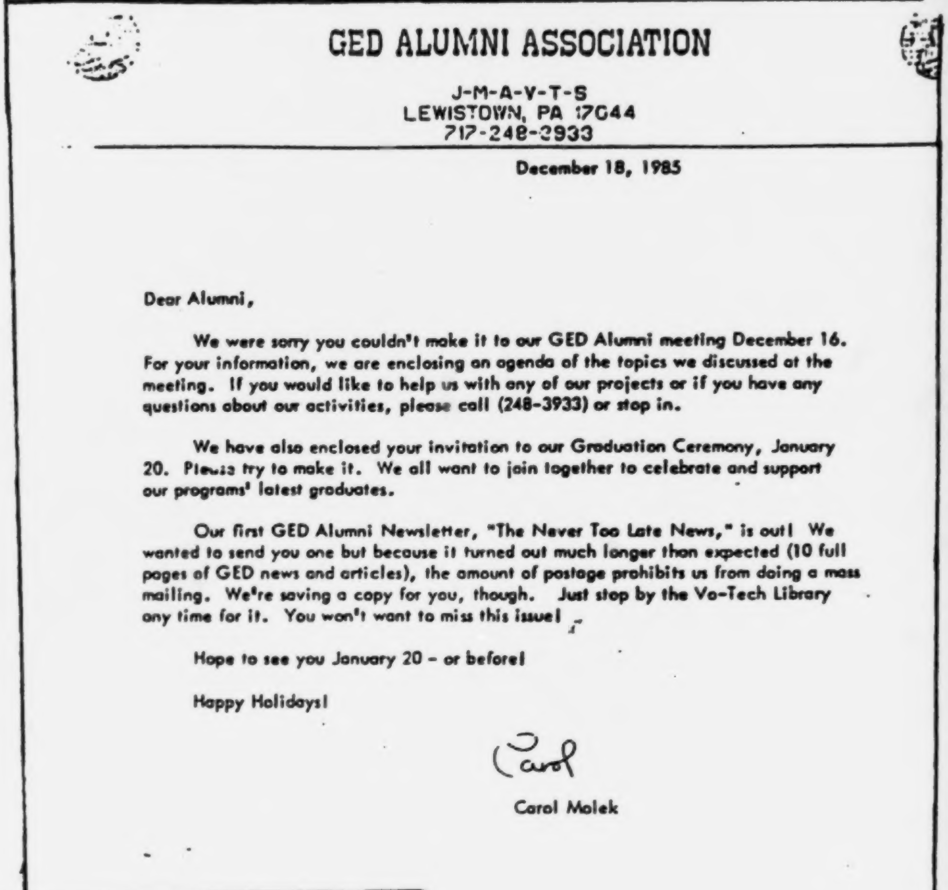
Do try to join us at our next meeting in the Vo-Tech Library on November 18 at 7:00 p.m. We'll be looking for you then. Please call 248-3933 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Carol Molek

Carol Molek

Recruitment letter for new graduates.


GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

J-M-A-V-T-S
LEWISTOWN, PA 17044
717-248-3933

December 18, 1985

Dear Alumni,

We were sorry you couldn't make it to our GED Alumni meeting December 16. For your information, we are enclosing an agenda of the topics we discussed at the meeting. If you would like to help us with any of our projects or if you have any questions about our activities, please call (248-3933) or stop in.

We have also enclosed your invitation to our Graduation Ceremony, January 20. Please try to make it. We all want to join together to celebrate and support our programs' latest graduates.

Our first GED Alumni Newsletter, "The Never Too Late News," is out! We wanted to send you one but because it turned out much longer than expected (10 full pages of GED news and articles), the amount of postage prohibits us from doing a mass mailing. We're saving a copy for you, though. Just stop by the Vo-Tech Library any time for it. You won't want to miss this issue!

Hope to see you January 20 - or before!

Happy Holidays!

Carol

Carol Molek

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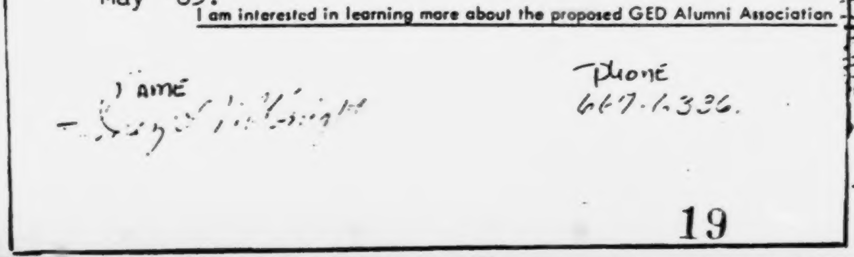
I INTERMEDIATE UNIT
THE PENNSYLVANIA
TMENT OF EDUCATION

Letters were sent to alumni who missed meetings including news of Association activities.

Original interest survey sign up sheet used in May '85.


I am interested in learning more about the proposed GED Alumni Association

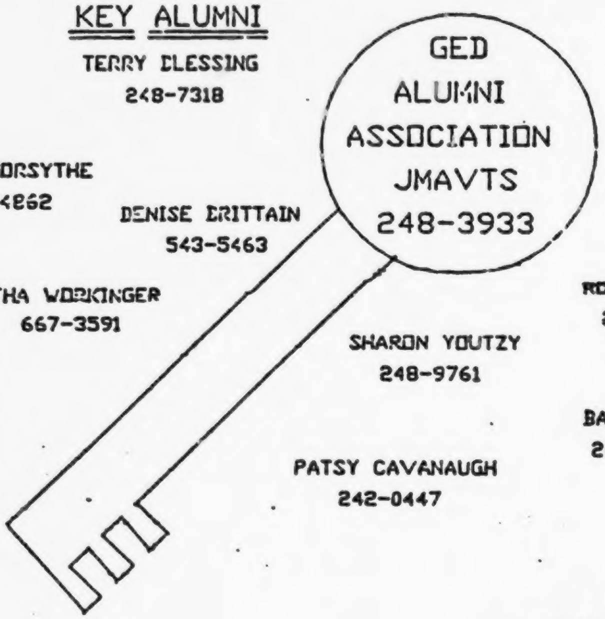
Name: [illegible]

Phone: 667-6336.

This flyer was distributed to all alumni so that they would know the KEY people to contact within the organization.

STEERING COMMITTEE

KEY ALUMNI



TERRY BLESSING	248-7318
CATHY FORSYTHE	248-4862
DENISE BRITTAIN	543-5463
ATHA WORKINGER	667-3591
ROBIN KELLEY	248-8495
SHARON YOUTZY	248-9761
BARB FULTZ	248-2187
PATSY CAVANAUGH	242-0447

JMAVTS STAFF

CAROL MOLEK CO-ORDINATO
BILL RYAN - COUNSELOR
GINGER SHADE - SECRETAR
ATHA WORKINGER - SECRET

Membership application all alumni completed.

**GED
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION**

GED ALUMNI! Join your organization and see what the Mifflin County GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION can do for you. By signing your name below you are automatically a member and will be notified of all upcoming events and activities. It's free! Join us! Sign your name below and your free membership card will be sent to you.

I am interested in working on the following GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION activities this year:

- ____ planning graduation ceremonies
- ____ fundraising
- ✓ participating in the "Writer's Workshop"
- ✓ career counseling
- ✓ education counseling
- ____ planning Alumni dinner
- ____ tutoring GED students
- ____ learning Job Search skills
- ✓ Alumni Newsletter
- ____ "Kid Connection" - Alumni table/activity
- ____ others

Name: [illegible] K. BaBel
Address: McClure RD2
Bx 120A Pa 17841
Phone No. 5435231

____ I am interested in being a member of the Mifflin County GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION but choose not to participate in any of the above activities at this time.

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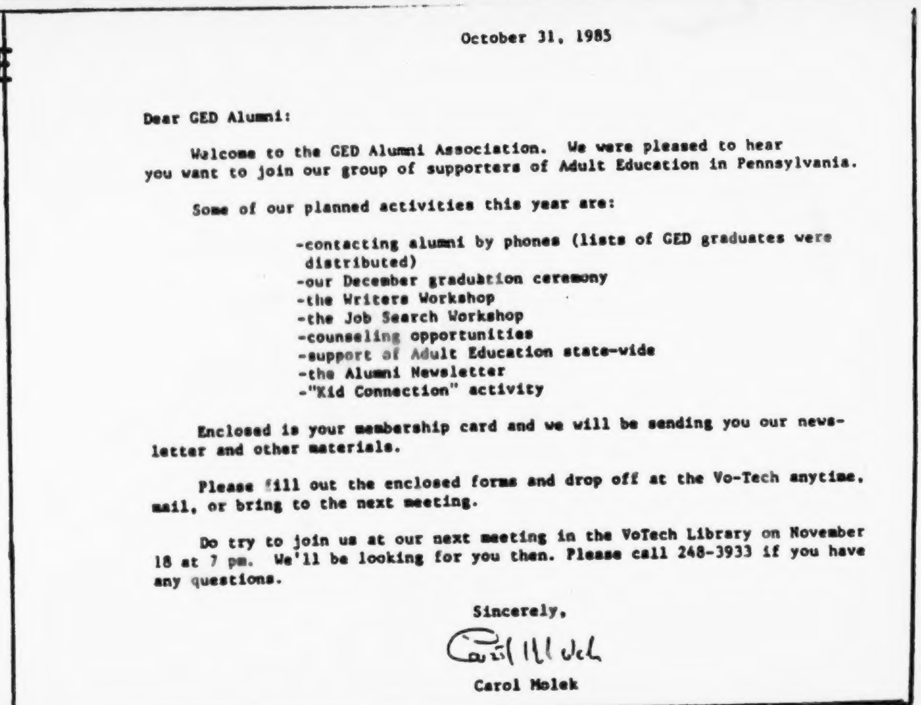
Welcome letter to alumni joining association.



October 31, 1985

Dear GED Alumni:

Welcome to the GED Alumni Association. We were pleased to hear you want to join our group of supporters of Adult Education in Pennsylvania.

Some of our planned activities this year are:

- -contacting alumni by phones (lists of GED graduates were distributed)
- -our December graduation ceremony
- -the Writers Workshop
- -the Job Search Workshop
- -counseling opportunities
- -support of Adult Education state-wide
- -the Alumni Newsletter
- -"Kid Connection" activity

Enclosed is your membership card and we will be sending you our newsletter and other materials.

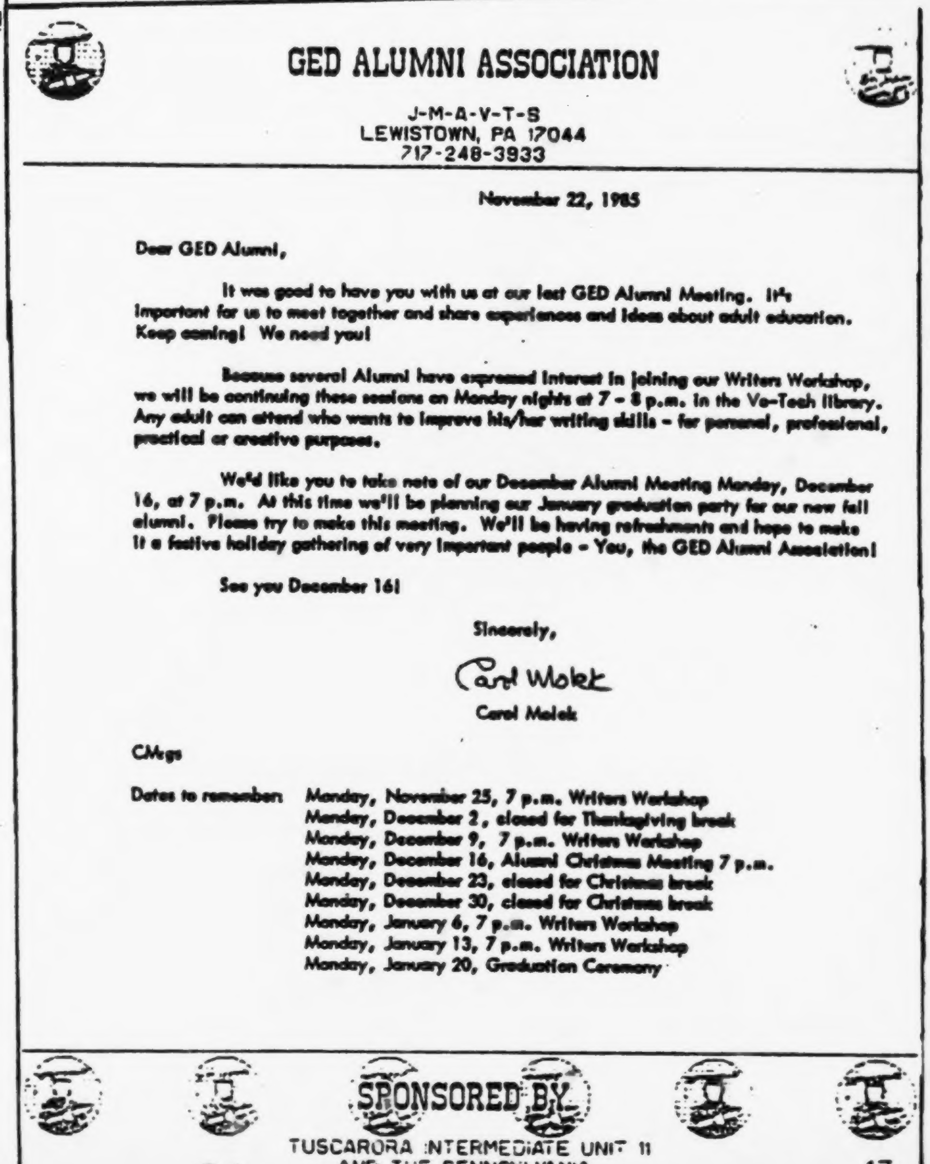
Please fill out the enclosed forms and drop off at the Vo-Tech anytime, mail, or bring to the next meeting.

Do try to join us at our next meeting in the VoTech Library on November 18 at 7 pm. We'll be looking for you then. Please call 248-3933 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Carol Molek

Letter sent out with important association dates listed.



GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

J-M-A-V-T-S
LEWISTOWN, PA 17044
717-248-3933

November 22, 1985

Dear GED Alumni,

It was good to have you with us at our last GED Alumni Meeting. It's important for us to meet together and share experiences and ideas about adult education. Keep coming! We need you!

Because several Alumni have expressed interest in joining our Writers Workshop, we will be continuing these sessions on *Monday nights at 7 - 8 p.m.* in the Vo-Tech library. Any adult can attend who wants to improve his/her writing skills - for personal, professional, practical or creative purposes.

We'd like you to take note of our December Alumni Meeting Monday, December 16, at 7 p.m. At this time we'll be planning our January graduation party for our new fall alumni. Please try to make this meeting. We'll be having refreshments and hope to make it a festive holiday gathering of very important people - You, the GED Alumni Association!

See you December 16!

Sincerely,

Carol Molek

Carol Molek

CM:gs

Dates to remember:
Monday, November 25, 7 p.m. Writers Workshop
Monday, December 2, closed for Thanksgiving break
Monday, December 9, 7 p.m. Writers Workshop
Monday, December 16, Alumni Christmas Meeting 7 p.m.
Monday, December 23, closed for Christmas break
Monday, December 30, closed for Christmas break
Monday, January 6, 7 p.m. Writers Workshop
Monday, January 13, 7 p.m. Writers Workshop
Monday, January 20, Graduation Ceremony

SPONSORED BY
TUSCARORA INTERMEDIATE UNIT 11
AND THE PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

GED Tests to be taken, alumni association forms, adult courses scheduled at vo-tech school

LEWISTOWN — General Education Development, commonly called GED, are in the news this week with the organization of a GED Alumni Association, new adult education courses and tests to be administered.

Alumni association

This fall marks the establishment of Mifflin County's first GED Alumni Association.

The association is open to any resident of Mifflin County who has successfully completed General Educational Development testing. It will comprise people with varied backgrounds and interests who share at least one common experience: working towards and receiving their GED diplomas.

Participation in the association will encourage further educational development and uphold participants' newly established feelings of self worth, Carol Molek said.

She added that the association will allow those students who have enjoyed, as adults, a supportive learning environment to maintain this contact and not be cut off from the educational environment.

Through the GED Alumni Association, graduates can receive needed emotional and educational support, vent frustrations, obtain special training, learn job search skills, and work with career counselors. Social activities will be organized as well as a graduation ceremony for GED graduates this December. An alumni newsletter will be published also. Other activities to further promote the stature of GED graduates in our community will be held.

Meetings for the GED Alumni Association will be held at the Juniata-Mifflin Counties Area Vocational-Technical School, home of several adult education programs in the county. The vo-tech school is the site of the currently operating JTPA funded GED preparation program.

For more information, call 248-3933.

An organizational meeting is set for 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 23 in the vo-tech school library.

Adults educated

The Tuscarora Intermediate Unit recently received word from the state Department of Education that two grants to establish new adult education programs in Mifflin County have been approved.

The programs are Adult Basic Education (ABE) and General Education Development (GED). Classes will be scheduled for days and evenings at the Juniata-Mifflin Counties Area Vocational-Technical School.

Students in the ABE and GED classes will work toward improving their skills in English, reading, math, science, social studies as well as preparing for the GED exam. Teachers will work with students individually and in small groups. Participants will also work with a guidance counselor to establish educational levels and to set goals.

Participants must be a Mifflin County resident and 16 years or older and not enrolled in a regular day school program. There are no income requirements for participants.

These programs will be coordinated with existing adult education classes at the vo-tech school. For additional information, call: 248-3933.

Tests administered

The General Educational Development tests will be administered 6-10 p.m. Thursday and 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday at Chief Logan High School.

New registrants will register at 6 p.m. Thursday and 8 a.m. Saturday. Candidates are asked to use the entrance near the lower parking lot.

A high school diploma will be granted by the state Department of Education to any eligible Pennsylvania resident who satisfactorily completes the GED requirements. Additional information on test applications and procedures may be obtained by calling David Runk, supervisor of secondary education, at 248-0148.

There will be a $15 fee payable on the test date.

GED
Alumni
Association

Any Mifflin County GED graduate is invited to become a member of this new organization created to provide services and activities for alumni. Come, JOIN US at an organizational meeting:

Monday, September 23, at 7:00 p.m.
Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational Technical School
(Library)
For More Information, Call 248-3933

News articles and ads used at the beginning of the project.

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17 at Chilcoat's Restaurant. Speaker: Bill West, executive director of Association for Retarded Citizens. Tickets [illegible] must be purchased before Oct. 11 at [illegible] N. Brown St. Public invited.

• The GED Alumni Association will hold an organizational meeting at 7 p.m. Monday at the Juniata-Mifflin Counties Area Vocational-Technical School. Any resident who has achieved his or her GED diploma is invited to attend.

• Republican Women of Action will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday in the community room of the Mifflin County Library. Slide show: "Your County Library." Social hour.

Church to
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• A ham
p.m. Sunday
men's Club.
• Burnham
will hold Ra
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Children w
lowing Sund
picnic at noo
• The
Methodist
annual Rall

GED
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

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at 7:00 p.m.
Juniata-Mifflin Area
Vocational Technical School
(Library)
For more information,
call 248-3933

County GED Alumni Association Forming

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Meetings for the GED Alumni

Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School, home of several adult education programs in the county. The Vo-Tech school is the site of the currently operating JTPA funded GED preparation program and because of this has become a natural gathering place for GED graduates of the community.

Anyone with questions about the GED Alumni Association or wanting more information can call the Vo-Tech School (248-3933). An organizational meeting will be held Monday, September 23, 7 p.m. in the library of the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational

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BEST COPY AVAILABLE

In the schools

School activities schedule:

Friday, March 7

- Chief Logan Middle School student council is sponsoring a dance 7-9 p.m. to benefit the Shelly Moser Fund (for CLMS students only).

Saturday, March 8

- The fourth annual Mifflin County Band Concert is at 2:30 p.m. in the Lewistown Area High School auditorium, featuring 107 students from Lewistown, Chief Logan, Kishacoquillas and Belleville Mennonite high schools. Doors open at 1:30 p.m. Admission is free. Sponsored by Russell National Bank and The Sentinel.
- Chief Logan Band Boosters will sponsor a spaghetti supper 4-6:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. Salad, dessert and beverage included. Price: $3, adults; $1.50, children. For tickets, call 248-7281 or 453-5893.

Monday, March 10

- Juniata-Tuscarora Band Boosters to meet at 7:30 p.m. in the high school band room.

Wednesday, March 12

- PHEAA representative to speak to Mifflin County School District students and parents about loans at 7 p.m. in the Kishacoquillas High School auditorium.

Thursday, March 13 and Friday, March 14

- Kishacoquillas High School senior variety show at 8 p.m. in the auditorium.

Saturday, March 15

- The West Snyder Athletic Booster Club's sixth double-elimination open volleyball tournament to be held in the high school gymnasium with female and male divisions.

Monday, March 17

- GED Alumni Association will meet at 7 p.m. at the Juniata-Mifflin Counties Area Vocational-Technical School library. All alumni and supporters of adult education invited. Speaker: Jane Hollister of Mifflin County Library Literacy Program.

Tuesday, March 18

- The next meeting of West Snyder High School's Citizens Advisory Board is at 7 p.m.
- Strodes Mills PSA will meet at 7 p.m. at Strodes Mills Elementary School. Kathy Stimely will present a preview of Kid Connection.

Thursday, March 20

- American Red Cross bloodmobile 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the gym at Kishacoquillas High School, sponsored by the Student Council and open to the public as well as students and staff.

PAGE 2

Bulletin Board

CHRISTMAS AUCTION—Lewistown Band Boosters will hold their annual Christmas Auction Thursday, Nov. 14, 6:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. Handmade crafts, baked goods and Christmas ornaments will be sold. Preceding the auction there will be a meal served, consisting of soup, sandwich, beverage and dessert, for $1.75 from 4-6 p.m. Everyone welcome.
11-13

VISUAL PROBLEMS INFORMATION PROGRAMS—The Lewistown Hospital Medical/Dental Staff announces the first in a series of free public information programs on visual problems. Monday, Nov. 18 at 7 p.m. in the classroom on the fourth floor. Topic will be Visual Loss and Cataract Problems, including laser for after-cataract membrane. Speakers are Alan D. Gordon, M.D., and Robert L. Burns, O.D. 11-13

STRODES MILLS ELEM. OPEN HOUSE—The Strodes Mills Elementary P.S.A. invites the public to open house, Tuesday, Nov. 19, 7-8:30 p.m. A brief business meeting will be held, followed by an opportunity to visit individual classrooms.
11-13

WATER STREET WARDROBE—St. Mark's Episcopal Church's "Water Street Wardrobe" is open 7 to 8:30 p.m. and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to noon. Good, clean clothing at low, low prices is available.
11-27

ST. MARK'S SALAD BAR—St. Mark's Episcopal Church will hold its annual salad bar Friday, Nov. 15, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sixteen varieties of salads plus nut breads will be offered. Tickets are $2.50 each.
11-13

COMMUNITY COUNSELING BOARD MEETING—The Board of Directors of the Community Counseling Center, Inc. will meet Thursday, Nov. 14 at 7:30 p.m. at 26 N. Brown St., Lewistown. 11-13

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST—The Valley Men's Fellowship Breakfast will be held at the Locust Grove Mennonite Church, Belleville, Saturday, Nov. 16 at 7:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. 11-13

CIVIC CLUB CRAFT & BAKE SALE—The Belleville Civic Club will hold a Christmas Craft and Bake Sale on Saturday, Nov. 23 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the Community Hall, Walnut St., Belleville. 11-20

TREE OF LIFE BOOTH—Members of the Lewistown Hospital Auxiliary and Hospice: The Bridge will be sponsoring a Tree of Life Information Booth, every Saturday in November. The booth will be located in Danks, downtown Lewistown, and in the Jamesway, Burnham Shopping Plaza. Persons interested in information about the Tree of Life can visit either booth between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. each Saturday. 11-27

RUMMAGE SALE—Thursday, November 14, starting at 9 a.m. at the Steele Building, Chestnut Street, sponsored by Burnham Lutheran Church Women and Lutheran Brotherhood Branch #8191. Members please take merchandise Wednesday 6-8 p.m.

THE MIFFLIN/JUNIATA CITIZENS for a Nuclear Weapons Freeze will hold a candlelight vigil on the steps of the old courthouse Tuesday. November 19 at 7 p.m. The vigil's purpose is to bring attention to the Reagan/Gorbachev summit and the world's hope for a meaningful dialogue. The public is invited to attend.

FREE CLASSES—Classes are now being formed for preparation for the General Education Development test (GED) for attaining a high school diploma. Classes will start in December, parttime day or evening. Register now by contacting the Juniata-Mifflin County Vo-Tech School at 248-3933.
11-30

GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION—will meet Monday, November 18 at 7 p.m. at the Juniata-Mifflin Counties Vo-Tech School. Any GED alumnus is welcome to attend. For more information telephone 248-3933.
11-13

- The GED Alumni Association to meet at 7 p.m. in the Juniata-Mifflin Counties Area Vocational-Technical School library. Work meeting for Kid Connection. All alumni and supporters of adult education invited. Call 248-4942 for more information.

Newspapers printed several announcements a month about the Alumni Association's meetings and workshops.

2— THE SENTINEL, Lewistown, Pa., Friday, April 18, 1986

THE SENTINEL

Calend

(*Editor's note: Announcements of upcoming activities of non-profit organizations will be published in this Calendar up to three consecutive days at no charge. The deadline is noon the day prior to publication. Write to The Sentinel, P.O. Box 588, Lewistown, PA 17044 or call 248-6741 or 1-800-634-0876.*)

Meeting schedule:

- McVeytown Lions Club will meet at 6 p.m. Monday at Kountry Kitchen.
- Longfellow Playground Association will meet at 7 p.m. Monday at the playground building.
- The GED Alumni Association will meet at 7 p.m. Monday at Juniata-Mifflin Counties Area Vocational-Technical School Library. Work meeting for Kid Connection. All alumni and supporters of adult education invited. Call 248-4942 for more information.
- Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Mifflin-Juniata County will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday at Mifflin County Courthouse, second floor. Leonard Aurand Jr. will speak on rehabilita-

7:30 p.m. April
the Rev. William
music each even
choir. Nursery se
• St. Mark's
Church, Havice
will hold reviva
p.m. April 20-
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• Trinity Unite
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A.M.E. Building F
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p.m. April 20-26.
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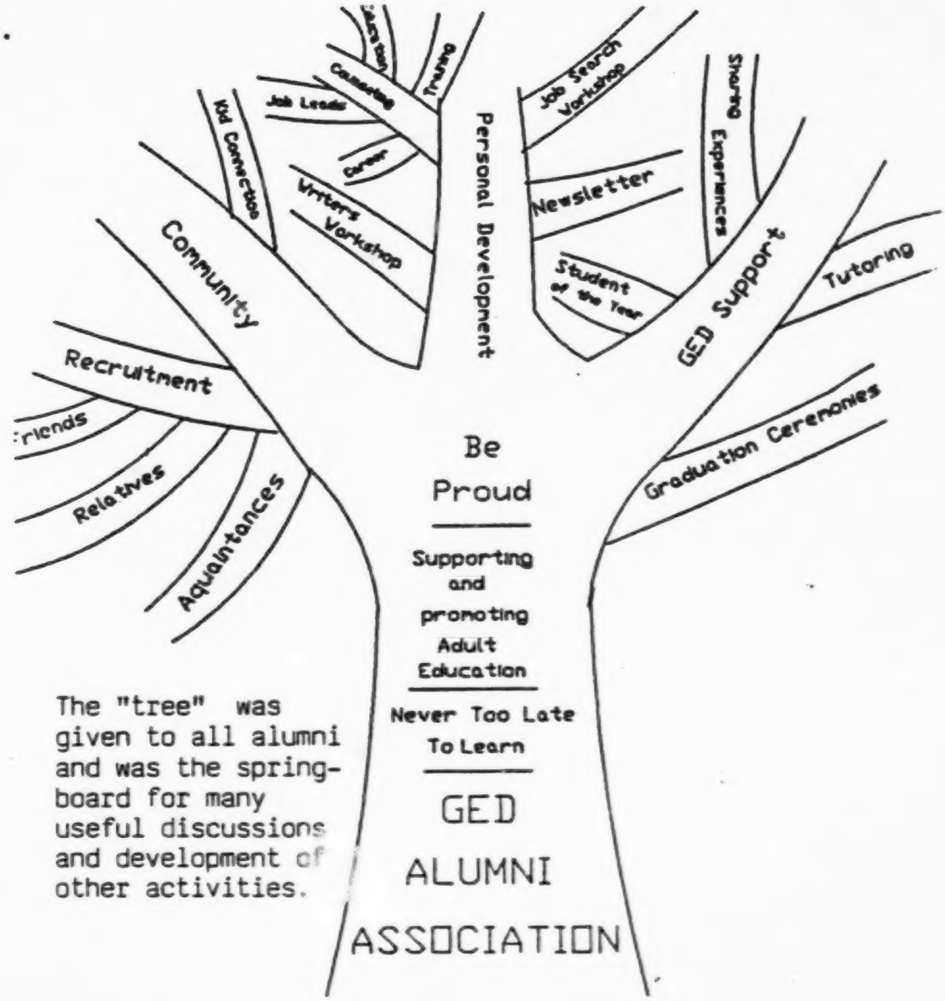
second floor.

- The GED Alumni Association will meet at 7 p.m. Monday at the Vo-Tech School. All GED alumni are welcome. Call 248-3933 for more information.
- Brown Township Crime Watch will meet at 7 p.m. Monday at the

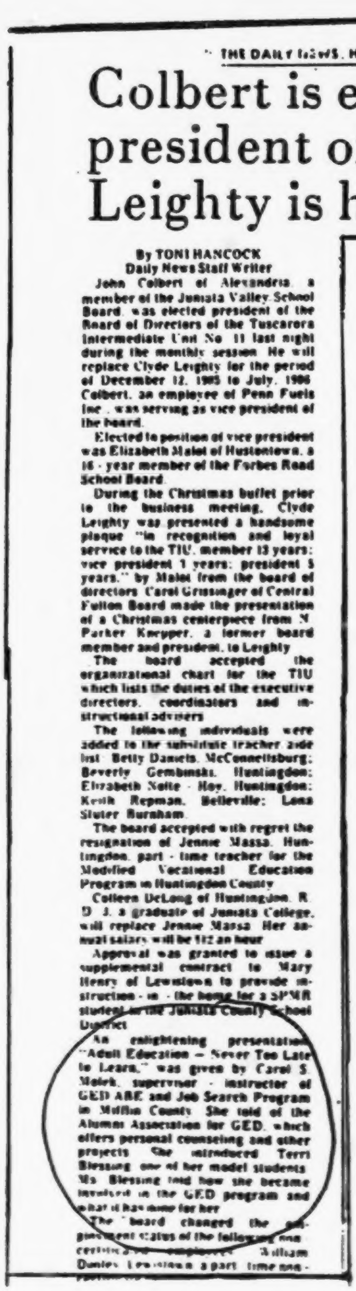
Activities

A wide range of activities were developed by the Alumni Association. A discussion of the major activities follows; however, there were a variety of small activities also.

One activity was the development of association plans and goals. The results of much discussion among alumni and staff led to the production of the Association "Tree" as a visual representation of the growth and branching out we project for the alumni group. The sturdy trunk of the alumni tree is based on the principles: Be Proud, Support and Promote Adult Education, and Never Too Late Too Learn. Three main branches grow from this base: Community involvement, personal development and GED support.


Kid Connection
Job Leads
Counseling
Training
Career
Writers Workshop
Personal Development
Job Search Workshop
Sharing Experiences
Newsletter
Student of the Year
GED Support
Tutoring
Community
Recruitment
Friends
Relatives
Aquaintances
Graduation Ceremonies
Be Proud
Supporting and promoting Adult Education
Never Too Late To Learn
GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The "tree" was given to all alumni and was the springboard for many useful discussions and development of other activities.



THE DAILY NEWS, Huntingdon, Saxton and Mount Union, Pa., Friday

Colbert is elected president of TIU; Leighty is honored

By TONI HANCOCK
Daily News Staff Writer

John Colbert of Alexandria, a member of the Juniata Valley School Board, was elected president of the Board of Directors of the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit No. 11 last night during the monthly session. He will replace Clyde Leighty for the period of December 12, 1985 to July, 1986. Colbert, an employee of Penn Fuels Inc., was serving as vice president of the board.

Elected to position of vice president was Elizabeth Malot of Hustontown, a 16 - year member of the Forbes Road School Board.

During the Christmas buffet prior to the business meeting, Clyde Leighty was presented a handsome plaque "in recognition and loyal service to the TIU, member 13 years; vice president 1 years; president 5 years," by Malot from the board of directors. Carol Grissinger of Central Fulton Board made the presentation of a Christmas centerpiece from N. Parker Kneppér, a former board member and president, to Leighty.

The board accepted the organizational chart for the TIU which lists the duties of the executive directors, coordinators and instructional advisers.

The following individuals were added to the substitute teacher aide list: Betty Daniels, McConnellsburg; Beverly Gembinski, Huntingdon; Elizabeth Nolte - Hoy, Huntingdon; Keith Repman, Belleville; Lona Sluter, Burnham.

The board accepted with regret the resignation of Jennie Massa, Huntingdon, part - time teacher for the Modified Vocational Education Program in Huntingdon County.

Colleen DeLong of Huntingdon, R. D. 3, a graduate of Juniata College, will replace Jennie Massa. Her annual salary will be $12 an hour.

Approval was granted to issue a supplemental contract to Mary Henry of Lewistown to provide instruction - in - the home for a SPMR student in the Juniata County School District.

An enlightening presentation "Adult Education — Never Too Late to Learn," was given by Carol S. Molek, supervisor - instructor of GED ABE and Job Search Program in Mifflin County. She told of the Alumni Association for GED, which offers personal counseling and other projects. She introduced Terri Blessing, one of her model students. Ms. Blessing told how she became involved in the GED program and what it has done for her.

The board changed the assignment status of the following non-certificated employees: William Dunlev, Lewistown, a part time non-

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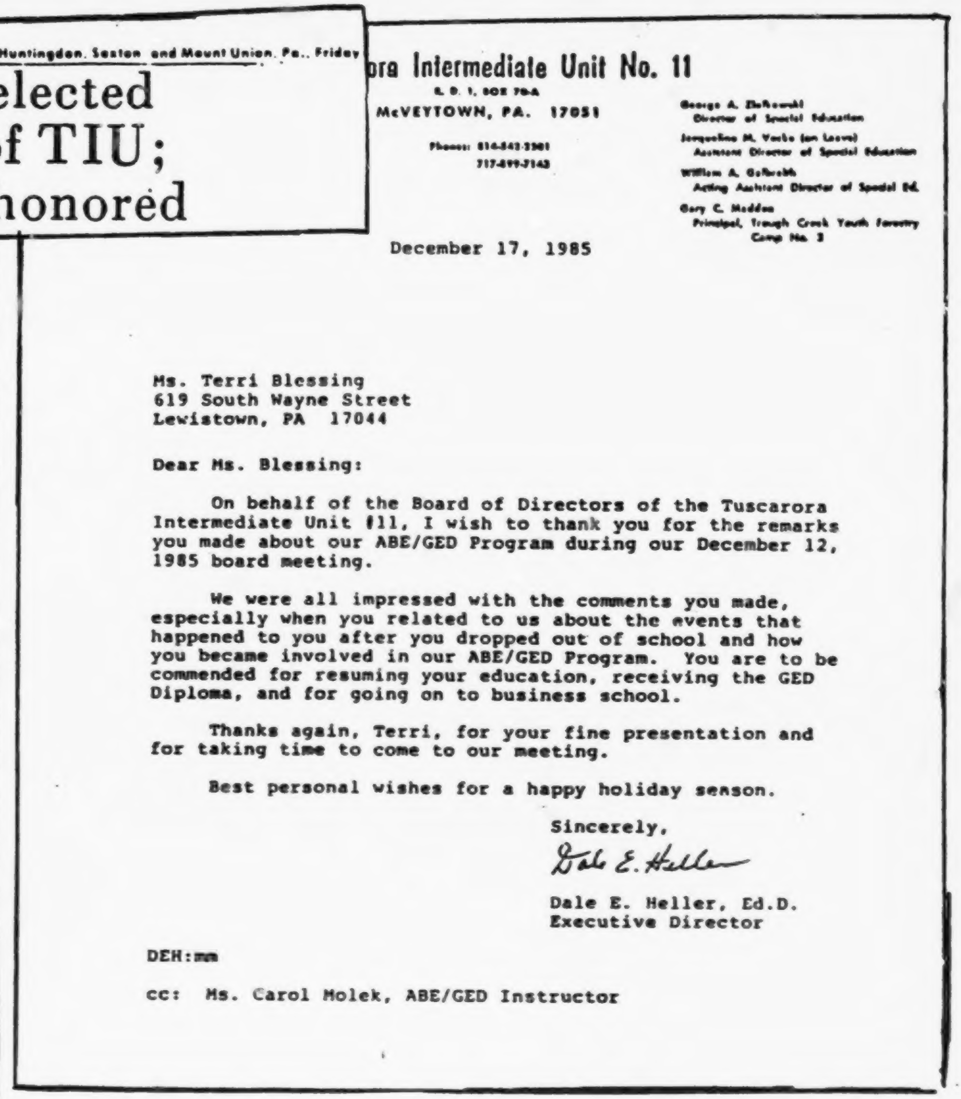

ora Intermediate Unit No. 11
R. D. 1, BOX 70-A
McVEYTOWN, PA. 17051

Phones: 814-542-2501
717-899-7143

George A. Ziolkowski
Director of Special Education
Jacqueline M. Vocke (on Leave)
Assistant Director of Special Education
William A. Galbraith
Acting Assistant Director of Special Ed.
Gary C. Madden
Principal, Trough Creek Youth Forestry Camp No. 3

December 17, 1985

Ms. Terri Blessing
619 South Wayne Street
Lewistown, PA 17044

Dear Ms. Blessing:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit #11, I wish to thank you for the remarks you made about our ABE/GED Program during our December 12, 1985 board meeting.

We were all impressed with the comments you made, especially when you related to us about the events that happened to you after you dropped out of school and how you became involved in our ABE/GED Program. You are to be commended for resuming your education, receiving the GED Diploma, and for going on to business school.

Thanks again, Terri, for your fine presentation and for taking time to come to our meeting.

Best personal wishes for a happy holiday season.

Sincerely,

Dale E. Heller

Dale E. Heller, Ed.D.
Executive Director

DEH:mm

cc: Ms. Carol Molek, ABE/GED Instructor

Alumna Speaker

On December 12, 1985, Terri Blessing, Alumna, addressed a board meeting of the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit. Her remarks were very positively and warmly received. Even though the TIU sponsored our Center's Adult Programs many of those attending knew very little about what we do. Besides receiving this information, they also heard first hand an alumna's personal experiece. We heard many favorable responses from this presentation.

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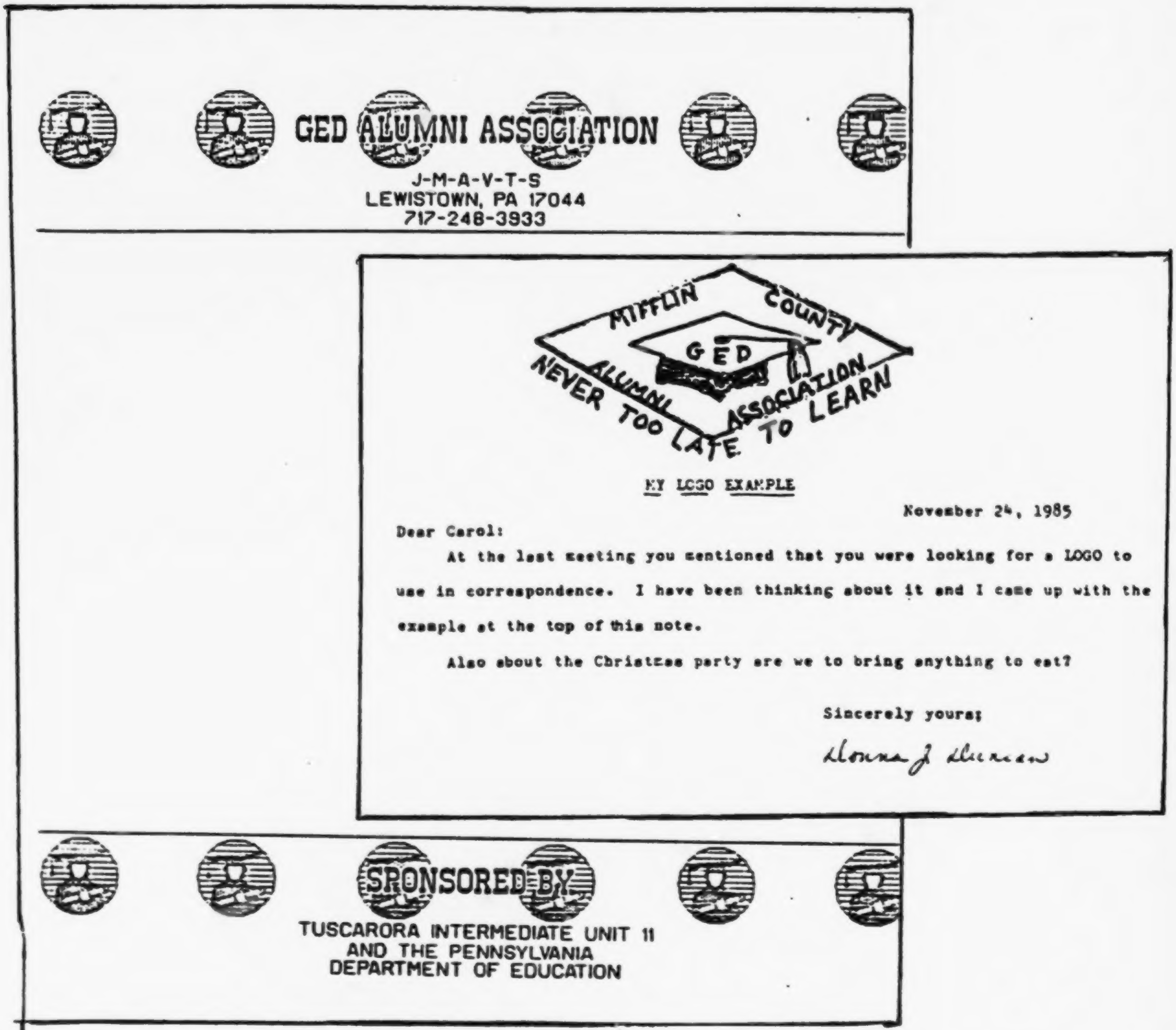


GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
J-M-A-V-T-S
LEWISTOWN, PA 17044
717-248-3933

MIFFLIN COUNTY GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
NEVER TOO LATE TO LEARN

MY LOGO EXAMPLE

November 24, 1985

Dear Carol:

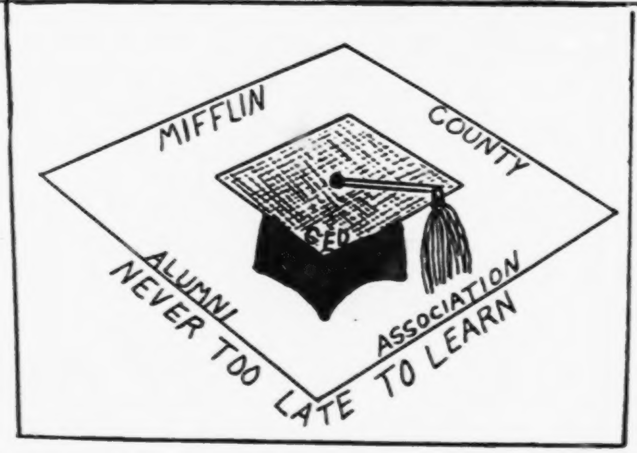
At the last meeting you mentioned that you were looking for a LOGO to use in correspondence. I have been thinking about it and I came up with the example at the top of this note.

Also about the Christmas party are we to bring anything to eat?

Sincerely yours;

Donna J. Duncan

SPONSORED BY
TUSCARORA INTERMEDIATE UNIT 11
AND THE PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Logo

In response to our request for alumni to design a logo for the Association we had several suggestions. We have used the cap and tassel design on our pamphlet and Winter Graduation Program. We have also used the graduate graphic available to us on an Apple computer. With the use of this Apple software we've developed a letterhead and posters for the group.

Pamphlet

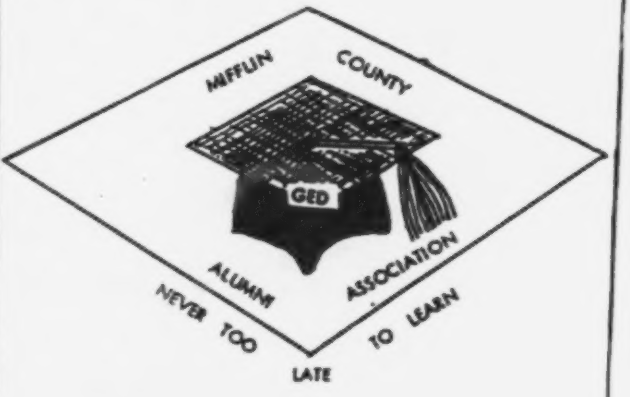
We decided early on in the school year that we needed an information pamphlet to distribute to new alumni, current students, and the general public. We were pleased with the results and distributed the pamphlets at our graduations, the Kid Connection, GED testing site, and our Center.

A copy of the pamphlet follows.

THE MIFFLIN COUNTY
GED
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

What is it?

Who's it for?



What do they do?

How do I join?

Where do they meet?

Where do they get together?

THE MIFFLIN COUNTY
GED
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

The Mifflin County GED Alumni Association is an organization formed in September 1985 to promote the advancement of adult education locally and throughout Pennsylvania. Since GED Alumni are a large and growing group, the potential for accomplishing many positive activities is a real possibility.

WHO ARE THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION?

Any supporter of adult education can join the Association. Currently there are over 125 members in the group. Most of the members have graduated from adult education classes at the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School or received their GED's in Mifflin County. The alumni come together with a great variety of backgrounds and interests but with the common goal of increasing support for adult education in our community.

WHERE DO YOU MEET?

The Association meets in the Library of the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School, Pitt Street & BelleVernon Street, Lewistown, PA 17044.

WHEN ARE MEETINGS?

The Alumni group meets the 3rd Monday night of each month at 7 p.m. Meetings last about 1 hour.

Workshops or special interest groups meet on the other 3 Monday nights in the month.

HOW DOES THE ASSOCIATION SUPPORT GED ACTIVITIES?

GED Association members meet and share experiences they had in pursuing their GED diplomas. By sharing this information advice can be passed on to current participants of our programs. GED alumni also tutor present GED students and help and organize GED graduation ceremonies.

HOW DOES THE ASSOCIATION SERVE THE PERSONAL NEEDS OF MEMBERS?

Personal development of members is highly encouraged by our staff. Personal, vocational, and educational counselor services are offered. Alumni work together for personal growth and to take advantage of opportunities for the future.

WHAT ARE THE WORKSHOPS THAT ARE OFFERED?

The Writers Workshop is a group of adults who wish to improve their writing in their personal or business lives. This group meets 3 Monday evenings a month and is responsible for producing the GED Alumni Newsletter, "The Never Too Late News." Anyone can contribute to the newsletter even if they're not in the Writers Workshop.

A Job Search Workshop where participants will learn how to write a resume and interview for jobs will take place in the spring.

WHAT DOES THE ASSOCIATION DO FOR THE COMMUNITY?

Alumni members are active recruiters for GED training programs. Members are encouraged to talk to friends, relatives, and acquaintances about continuing education.

The Alumni group will have an activity table at the "Kid Connection" in Lewistown. We will be helping kids make a little "graduate" to take home. Hopefully, we will reach 3000 adults this way too.

IS THERE A STATEWIDE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION?

Yes, there is a Pennsylvania Alumni Association forming now and the Mifflin County group will be involved in it. A group of our Alumni will participate in the Mid-Winter Adult Education Conference in Hershey in February to find out what other Alumni groups around PA are doing.

HOW DO I JOIN?

That's easy! Ask anyone on staff at the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School Library. Come in and sign up anytime or call and we'll get more information to you. Or just come to a meeting. Meetings are announced in the Sentinel "Bulletin" column and on the radio too.

WHAT DOES IT COST?

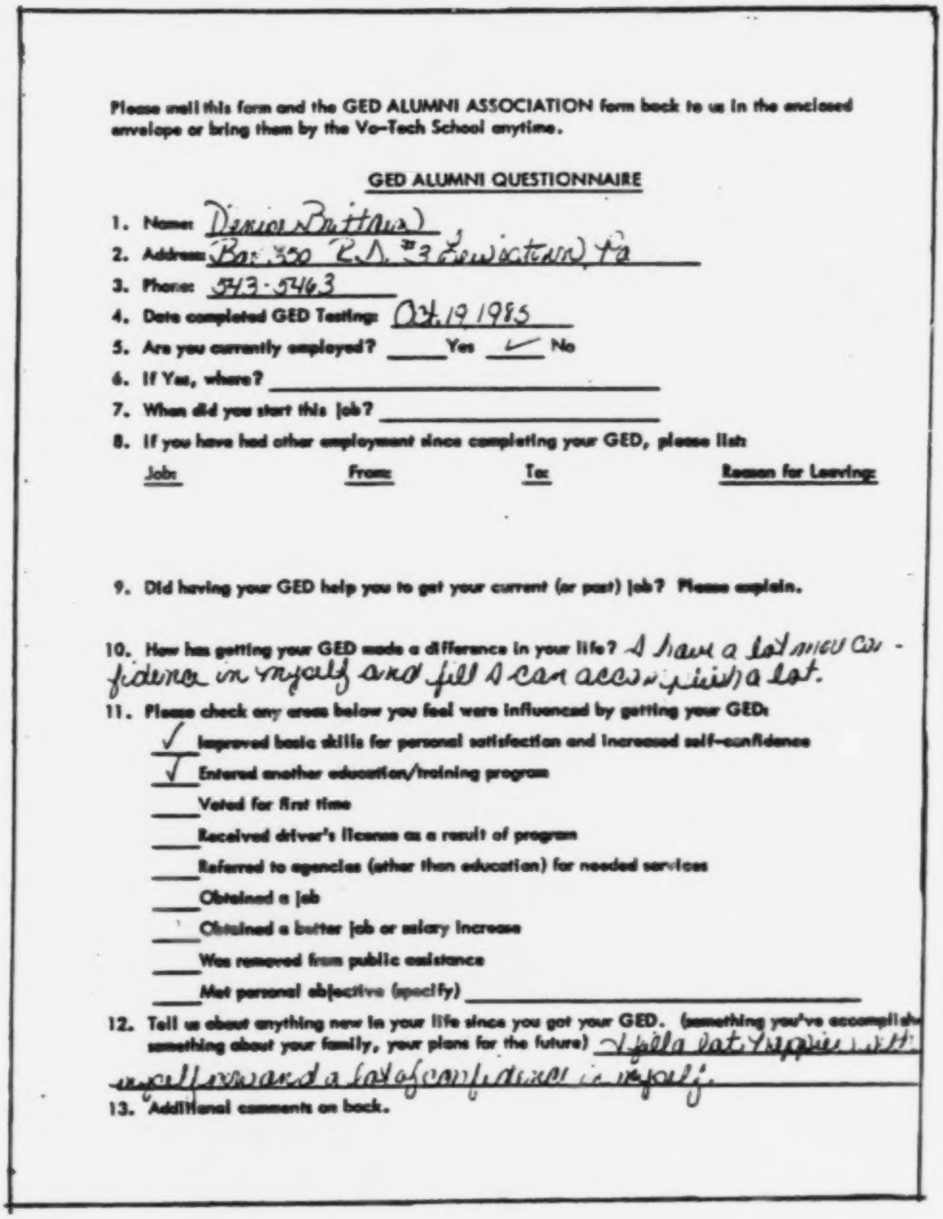
Membership is free! We are currently involved in developing some fund raising projects to cover our costs. The first of these projects is the raffling off of one of Dee Hambright's oil paintings. Have any ideas? Please, let us know.

****

To find out more:

Call or stop in Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School, Lewistown, PA - 717-248-4942

WE NEED YOU!



Please mail this form and the GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION form back to us in the enclosed envelope or bring them by the Vo-Tech School anytime.

GED ALUMNI QUESTIONNAIRE

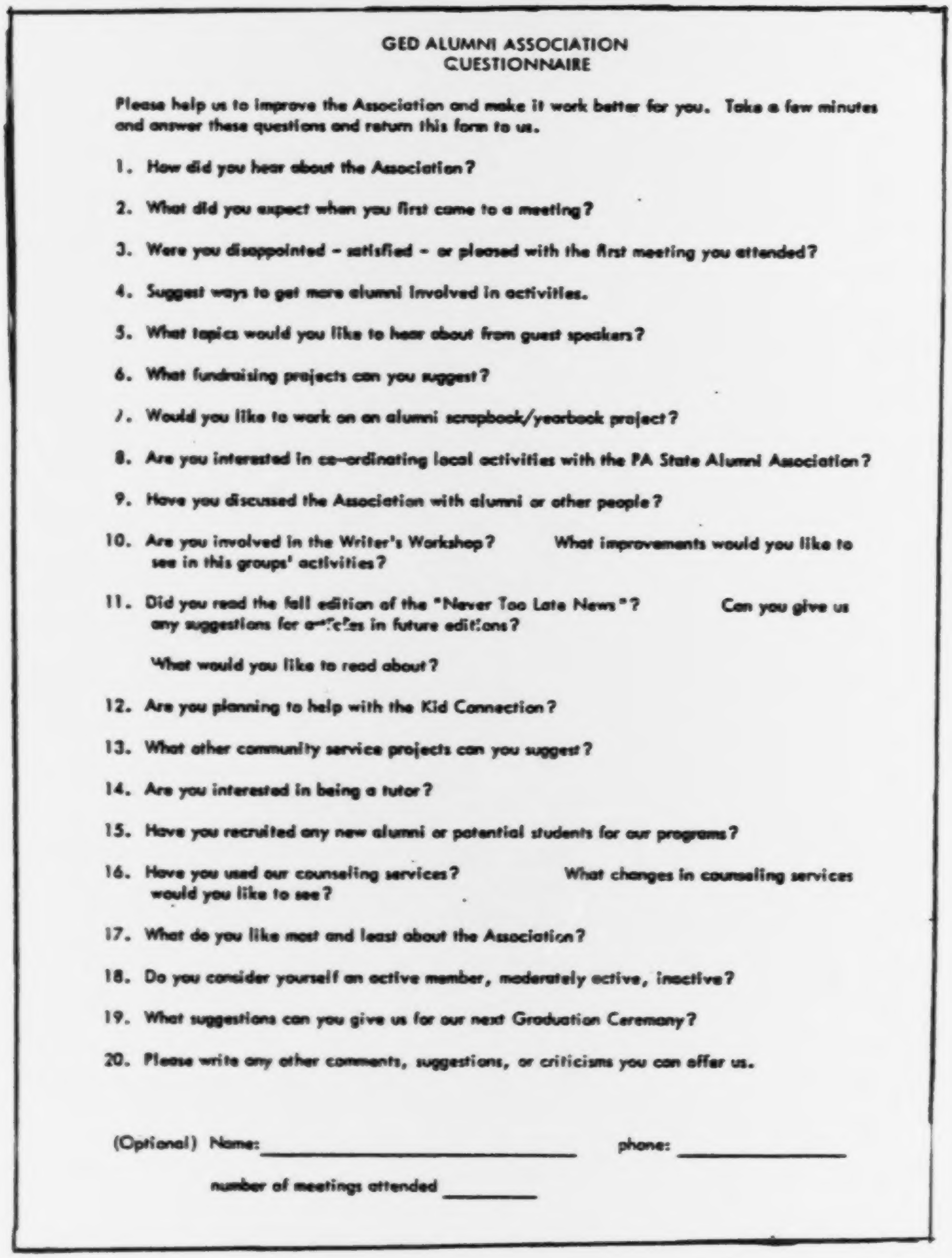
1. Name: Denice Brittain
2. Address: Box 350 R.D. #3 Lewistown, Pa
3. Phone: 543-5463
4. Date completed GED Testing: Oct. 19 1985
5. Are you currently employed? ____ Yes ✓ No
6. If Yes, where? ____
7. When did you start this job? ____
8. If you have had other employment since completing your GED, please list:

Job:	From:	To:	Reason for Leaving:

9. Did having your GED help you to get your current (or past) job? Please explain.
10. How has getting your GED made a difference in your life? I have a lot more con-fidence in myself and feel I can accomplish a lot.
11. Please check any areas below you feel were influenced by getting your GED:
    - ✓ Improved basic skills for personal satisfaction and increased self-confidence
    - ✓ Entered another education/training program
    - ____ Voted for first time
    - ____ Received driver's license as a result of program
    - ____ Referred to agencies (other than education) for needed services
    - ____ Obtained a job
    - ____ Obtained a better job or salary increase
    - ____ Was removed from public assistance
    - ____ Met personal objective (specify) ____
12. Tell us about anything new in your life since you got your GED. (something you've accomplish something about your family, your plans for the future) I feel a lot happier with myself and a lot of confidence in myself.
13. Additional comments on back.

Questionnaires

Twice during the project we distributed questionnaires to alumna. The first questionnaire was given out with membership forms during initial contact with participants and we asked for return of these within a month. From these questions we learned how achieving a GED affected the lives of alumni.



GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
QUESTIONNAIRE

Please help us to improve the Association and make it work better for you. Take a few minutes and answer these questions and return this form to us.

1. How did you hear about the Association?
2. What did you expect when you first came to a meeting?
3. Were you disappointed - satisfied - or pleased with the first meeting you attended?
4. Suggest ways to get more alumni involved in activities.
5. What topics would you like to hear about from guest speakers?
6. What fundraising projects can you suggest?
7. Would you like to work on an alumni scrapbook/yearbook project?
8. Are you interested in co-ordinating local activities with the PA State Alumni Association?
9. Have you discussed the Association with alumni or other people?
10. Are you involved in the Writer's Workshop? What improvements would you like to see in this groups' activities?
11. Did you read the fall edition of the "Never Too Late News"? Can you give us any suggestions for articles in future editions?

    What would you like to read about?
12. Are you planning to help with the Kid Connection?
13. What other community service projects can you suggest?
14. Are you interested in being a tutor?
15. Have you recruited any new alumni or potential students for our programs?
16. Have you used our counseling services? What changes in counseling services would you like to see?
17. What do you like most and least about the Association?
18. Do you consider yourself an active member, moderately active, inactive?
19. What suggestions can you give us for our next Graduation Ceremony?
20. Please write any other comments, suggestions, or criticisms you can offer us.

(Optional) Name:____________________________ phone: _______________

number of meetings attended ________

A follow-up questionnaire was distributed at mid-year to measure how alumni felt their needs were being met. Approximately 25% of questionnaires distributed were returned to us and although responses were interesting and helpful in developing Association plans, we were disappointed in the member replies received.

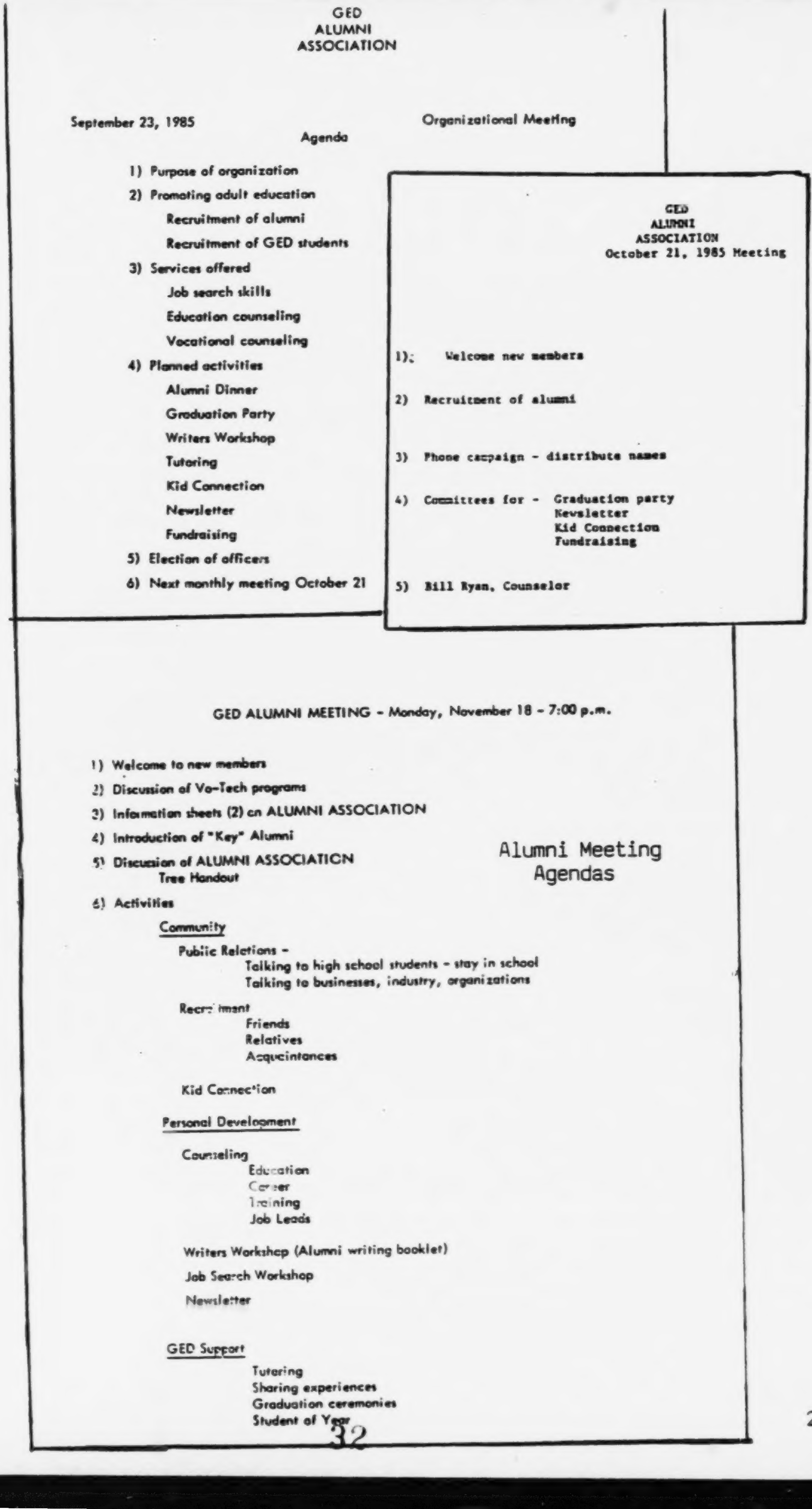
Meetings

Meetings were a regular monthly activity of the Association. The first three (September, October, November) were organizational in nature. Much was shared concerning individual's GED experiences and hopes and plans for the Association.

In December a holiday party/meeting was held. Discussions centered on graduation in January. Our February meeting was canceled because of flu and bad weather so everyone was anxious to meet in March. Jane Hollister, Coordinator for the Mifflin County Library Literacy Program, was the featured speaker. The response was enthusiastic and the development of guest speakers for each monthly meeting for next year is a priority.

Our April meeting was a work meeting in preparation for an Alumni activity at the Kid Connection event in Lewistown. At this time our scrapbook project was developed. We now have 4 scrapbooks filled with photos, news clippings, etc. in the reception area of our Center.

At the April meeting alumni also elected officers for next year. With the fine leaders selected plans for next year will certainly be successful.



GED
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

September 23, 1985 — Organizational Meeting

Agenda

1) Purpose of organization
2) Promoting adult education
    - Recruitment of alumni
    - Recruitment of GED students
3) Services offered
    - Job search skills
    - Education counseling
    - Vocational counseling
4) Planned activities
    - Alumni Dinner
    - Graduation Party
    - Writers Workshop
    - Tutoring
    - Kid Connection
    - Newsletter
    - Fundraising
5) Election of officers
6) Next monthly meeting October 21

GED
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION
October 21, 1985 Meeting

1) Welcome new members

2) Recruitment of alumni

3) Phone campaign - distribute names

4) Committees for -
    - Graduation party
    - Newsletter
    - Kid Connection
    - Fundraising

5) Bill Ryan, Counselor

GED ALUMNI MEETING - Monday, November 18 - 7:00 p.m.

1) Welcome to new members
2) Discussion of Vo-Tech programs
3) Information sheets (2) on ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
4) Introduction of "Key" Alumni
5) Discussion of ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
    Tree Handout
6) Activities

Community

Public Relations -
    Talking to high school students - stay in school
    Talking to businesses, industry, organizations

Recruitment
    Friends
    Relatives
    Acquaintances

Kid Connection

Personal Development

Counseling
    Education
    Career
    Training
    Job Leads

Writers Workshop (Alumni writing booklet)

Job Search Workshop

Newsletter

GED Support

    Tutoring
    Sharing experiences
    Graduation ceremonies
    Student of Year

Alumni Meeting Agendas

Agenda
GED Alumni Meeting
December 16, 1985 - 7 p.m.

1) Welcome to new members
2) Discussion of Vo-Tech programs and Alumni Association
3) Report on TIU presentation
4) Plans for January 20 Graduation Ceremony
    Invitations
    Decorate and set up
    Refreshments
    Entertainment (speakers - music - other?)
    Raffle
    Program
    Clean-up
5) Distribution of Newsletter
6) Logo
7) Mid-Winter Conference - Alumni Meeting
8) Ideas for next year
9) Alumni "Needs" questionnaire
10) Refreshments

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

J-M-A-V-T-S
LEWISTOWN, PA 17044
717-248-3933

REMINDER.......

GED
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

MEETING
MONDAY
FEBRUARY 17, 1986
7:00 P.M.

JUNIATA-MIFFLIN AREA VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL LIBRARY

SPEAKER: JANE HOLLISTER
LITERACY CO-ORDINATOR
WILL SPEAK ON THE MIFFLIN COUNTY LIBRARY LITERACY PROGRAM

AVAILABLE AT THE MEETING: "THE NEVER TOO LATE NEWS"
GRADUATION PROGRAMS
ALUMNI INFORMATION PAMPHLET

*COME HEAR A REPORT ON THE STATEWIDE ALUMNI MEETING ON THE MID-WINTER ADULT EDUCATION CONFERENCE AT HERSHEY

*PLEASE BRING YOUR QUESTIONNAIRE (ENCLOSED)

*COME SEE OUR GRADUATION CEREMONY PHOTOS - YOU CAN ORDER COPIES!

SPONSORED BY
TUSCARORA INTERMEDIATE UNIT 11
AND THE PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

J-M-A-V-T-S
LEWISTOWN, PA 17044
717-248-3933

Agenda

GED Alumni Association Meeting

March 17, 1986, 7 p.m.

Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School

1) Speaker: Jane Hollister, Mifflin County Library Literacy Program
2) Report from Hershey: Atha Workinger
3) Winter Graduation Photos (order photos if you want)
4) Spring Graduation - Thursday, May 29, 1986
5) Spring Workshops: Writers - Job Search - May 5 and 12, 1986
6) Speakers for Spring Meeting - April 21, 1986
7) Upcoming Activities - Kid Connection
   Tutoring
   Election of Officers
8) Spring Trip
9) Yearbook/
10) Questionn
11) Spring Ne

NEXT M

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GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

ADULT EDUCATION T.I.U. CENTER
LEWISTOWN, PA 17044
(717) 248-4942

GED
ALUMNI
MEETING

APRIL 21, 1986 7 P.M.

JUNIATA-MIFFLIN AREA VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL ADULT EDUCATION TIU CENTER

1. MINI JOB SEARCH WORKSHOP

   MONDAY, MAY 5, 7 P.M.
   MONDAY, MAY 12, 7 P.M.

2. SPRING GRADUATION PLANS - THURSDAY, MAY 29 - 7 P.M.
   SPEAKERS
   REFRESHMENTS
   DECORATIONS
   ENTERTAINMENT
3. SCRAPBOOK PROJECT
4. SPRING NEWSLETTER
5. QUESTIONNAIRE
6. MIFFLIN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT DROPOUT PREVENTION PROGRAM
   SPEAKERS
   BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS
7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS
8. KID CONNECTION
   APRIL 26 (RAIN DATE - MAY 3)
9. ACT TESTS

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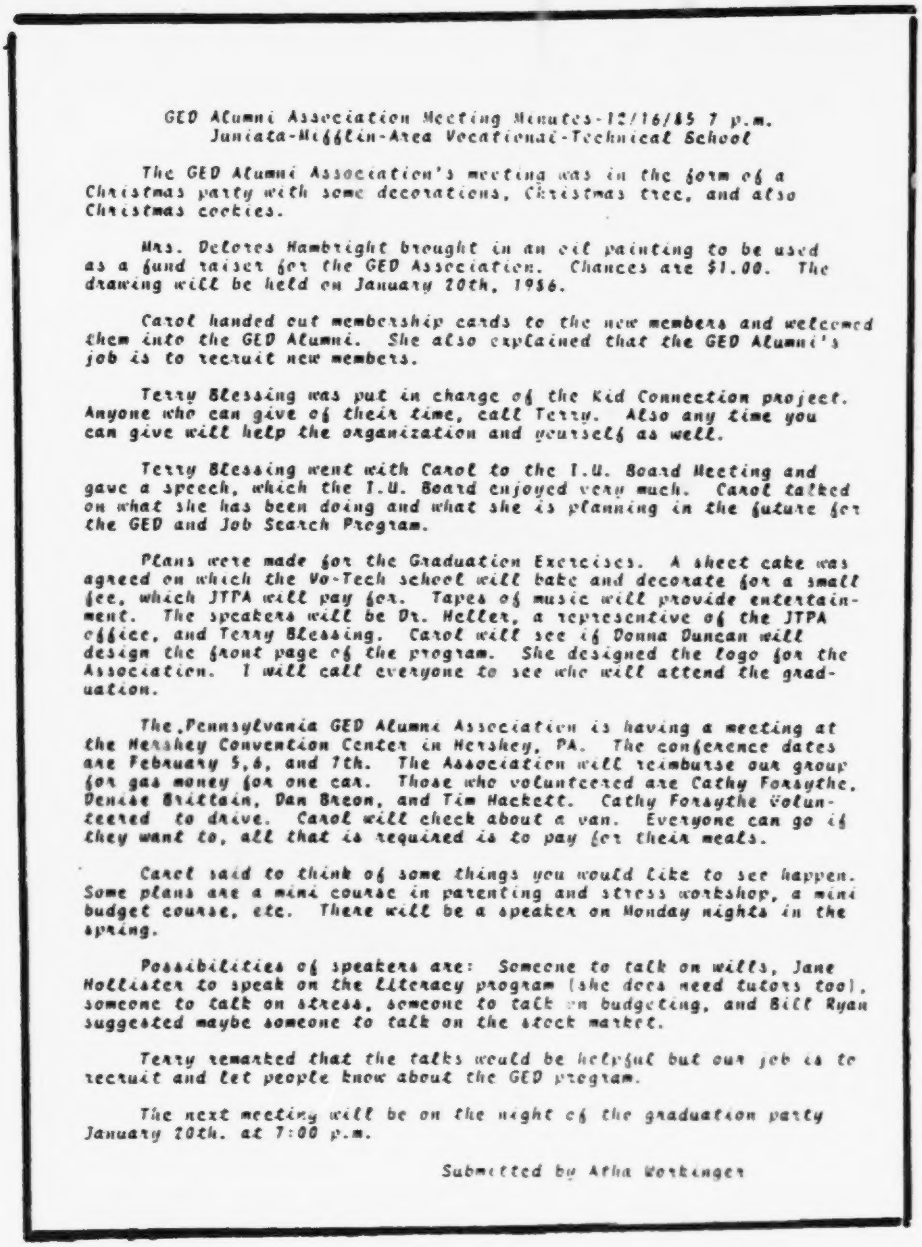
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



GED Alumni Association Meeting Minutes-12/16/85 7 p.m.
Juniata-Mifflin-Area Vocational-Technical School

The GED Alumni Association's meeting was in the form of a Christmas party with some decorations, Christmas tree, and also Christmas cookies.

Mrs. Delores Hambright brought in an oil painting to be used as a fund raiser for the GED Association. Chances are $1.00. The drawing will be held on January 20th, 1956.

Carol handed out membership cards to the new members and welcomed them into the GED Alumni. She also explained that the GED Alumni's job is to recruit new members.

Terry Blessing was put in charge of the Kid Connection project. Anyone who can give of their time, call Terry. Also any time you can give will help the organization and yourself as well.

Terry Blessing went with Carol to the I.U. Board Meeting and gave a speech, which the I.U. Board enjoyed very much. Carol talked on what she has been doing and what she is planning in the future for the GED and Job Search Program.

Plans were made for the Graduation Exercises. A sheet cake was agreed on which the Vo-Tech school will bake and decorate for a small fee, which JTPA will pay for. Tapes of music will provide entertainment. The speakers will be Dr. Heller, a representive of the JTPA office, and Terry Blessing. Carol will see if Donna Duncan will design the front page of the program. She designed the logo for the Association. I will call everyone to see who will attend the graduation.

The Pennsylvania GED Alumni Association is having a meeting at the Hershey Convention Center in Hershey, PA. The conference dates are February 5,6, and 7th. The Association will reimburse our group for gas money for one car. Those who volunteered are Cathy Forsythe, Denise Brittain, Dan Breon, and Tim Hackett. Cathy Forsythe volunteered to drive. Carol will check about a van. Everyone can go if they want to, all that is required is to pay for their meals.

Carol said to think of some things you would like to see happen. Some plans are a mini course in parenting and stress workshop, a mini budget course, etc. There will be a speaker on Monday nights in the spring.

Possibilities of speakers are: Someone to talk on wills, Jane Hollister to speak on the literacy program (she does need tutors too), someone to talk on stress, someone to talk on budgeting, and Bill Ryan suggested maybe someone to talk on the stock market.

Terry remarked that the talks would be helpful but our job is to recruit and let people know about the GED program.

The next meeting will be on the night of the graduation party January 20th. at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Atha Workinger

Recordkeeping:

Atha Workinger is a secretary in our Center and is also the Alumni Association secretary. She is maintaining an ongoing history of the Association as well as detailed minutes of meetings.

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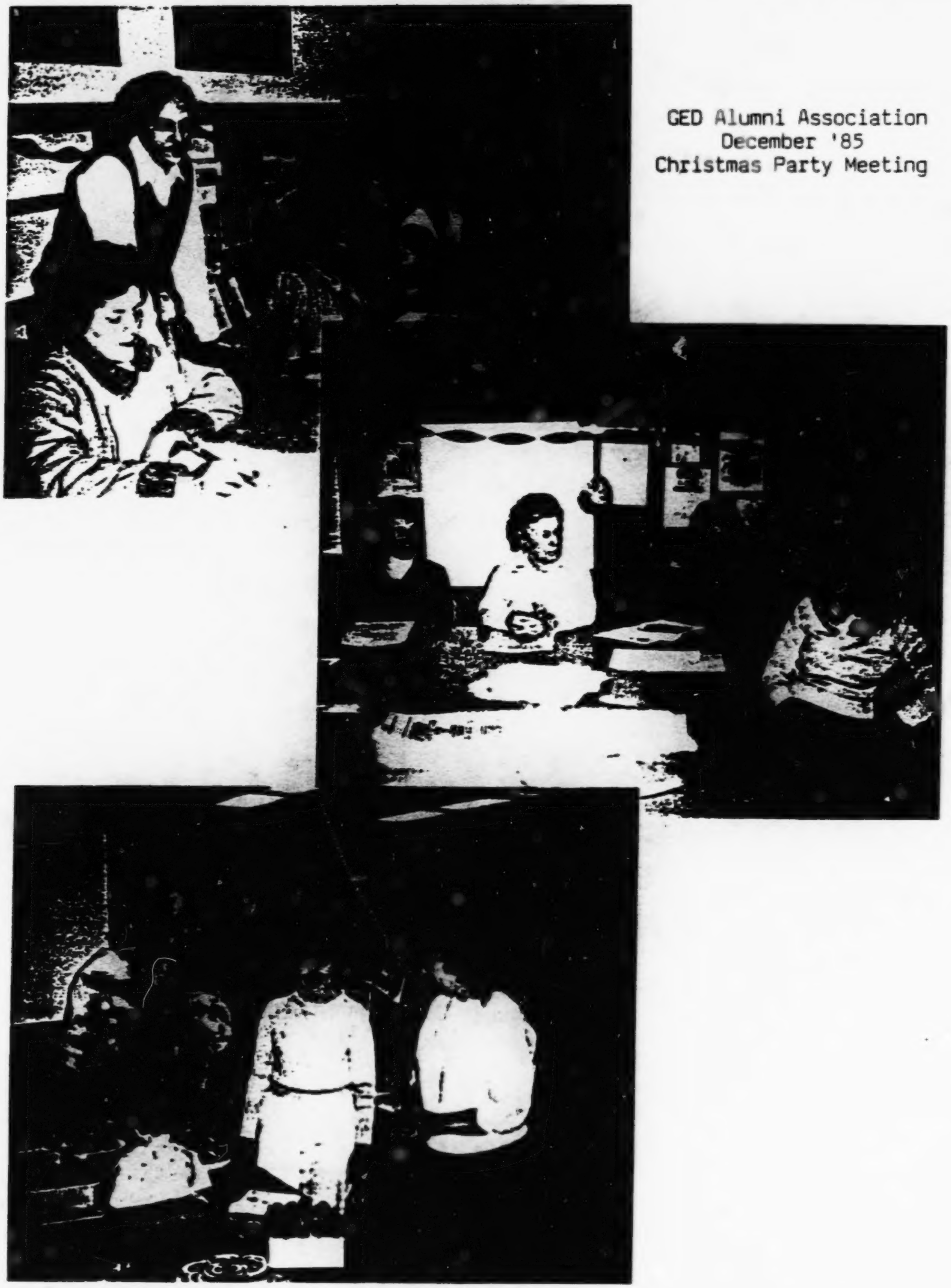
GED Alumni Association
December '85
Christmas Party Meeting



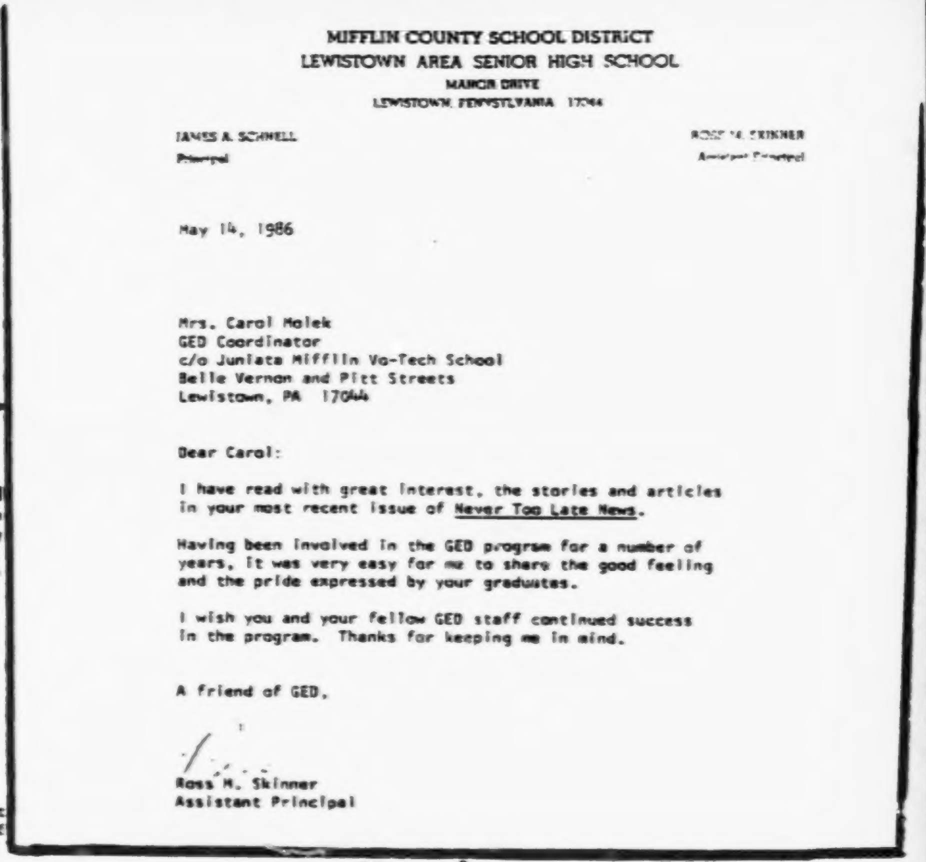
March '86 GED Alumni
Association Meeting
Featured speaker:
Jane Hollister,
Mifflin County Library
Literacy Program

Newsletters

Two newsletters, the "Never Too Late News" were produced by the Alumni Association during the project. The newsletters were distributed to alumna, current students, staff, Community Based Organizations, and a list of state wide contacts which were established. Reactions to the newsletters was very positive. One result of the first newsletter was more alumni and student involvement and participation in the production of the second newsletter. Initially we had planned on 6 page editions: the fall newsletter was 10 pages and the spring edition was 14 pages.

Although the fall newsletter was primarily written by the staff, the spring edition contained much more alumni and student writing. The newsletter will continue in this direction in the fall.

Complimentary letters of response to our newsletters came from several people.



MIFFLIN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
LEWISTOWN AREA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
MANOR DRIVE
LEWISTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 17044

JAMES A. SCHNELL
Principal

ROSS M. SKINNER
Assistant Principal

May 14, 1986

Mrs. Carol Molek
GED Coordinator
c/o Juniata Mifflin Vo-Tech School
Belle Vernon and Pitt Streets
Lewistown, PA 17044

Dear Carol:

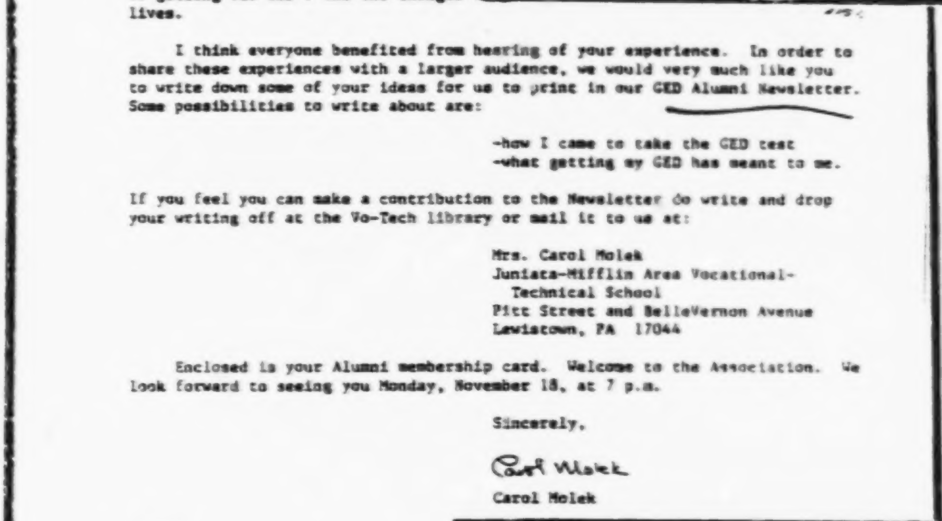
I have read with great interest, the stories and articles in your most recent issue of Never Too Late News.

Having been involved in the GED program for a number of years, it was very easy for me to share the good feeling and the pride expressed by your graduates.

I wish you and your fellow GED staff continued success in the program. Thanks for keeping me in mind.

A friend of GED,

Ross M. Skinner
Assistant Principal



Tuscarora Intern
R. D. 1
McVEYTOW
Phone

[illegible]
Executive Director
Glenn W. Campbell
Assistant Executive Director
Anthony F. Labriola
Curriculum & In-Service Specialist

Dear GED Alumni,

I just wanted to say how nice it
Monday night. One of the purposes of
of getting our GED's and the changes
lives.

I think everyone benefited from hearing of your experience. In order to share these experiences with a larger audience, we would very much like you to write down some of your ideas for us to print in our GED Alumni Newsletter. Some possibilities to write about are:

-how I came to take the GED test
-what getting my GED has meant to me.

If you feel you can make a contribution to the Newsletter do write and drop your writing off at the Vo-Tech library or mail it to us at:

Mrs. Carol Molek
Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-
Technical School
Pitt Street and BelleVernon Avenue
Lewistown, PA 17044

Enclosed is your Alumni membership card. Welcome to the Association. We look forward to seeing you Monday, November 18, at 7 p.m.

Sincerely,

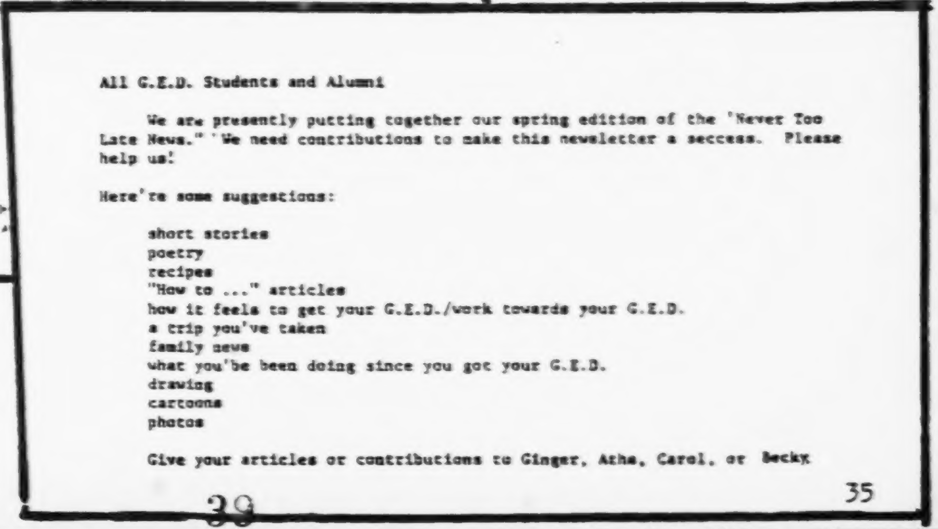
Carol Molek

Carol Molek

CM:gs
Enclosure

Serving the Schools in Fulton, H
AN EQUAL RIGHTS A

Letter and memo requesting alumni and student writing for newsletters.



All G.E.D. Students and Alumni

We are presently putting together our spring edition of the "Never Too Late News." We need contributions to make this newsletter a seccess. Please help us!

Here're some suggestions:

- short stories
- poetry
- recipes
- "How to ..." articles
- how it feels to get your G.E.D./work towards your G.E.D.
- a trip you've taken
- family news
- what you'be been doing since you got your G.E.D.
- drawing
- cartoons
- photos

Give your articles or contributions to Ginger, Atha, Carol, or Becky

Never Too Late News

THE MIFFLIN COUNTY GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER - FALL 1985

Alumnae Barb Fultz, Joyce Devore, Atha Workinger, and Sharon Youtzy attend November's Alumni Meeting

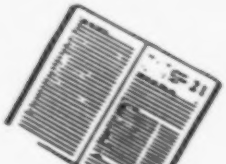
GED
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATIOI
JMAVTS
248-3933

MIFFLIN COUNTY GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION UPCOMING EVENTS

Our Alumni group is off to a great start. We have over 100 members signed up and a great core of KEY people to get us going. Come join us! Some of our upcoming and ongoing activities are:

-planning our January 20 graduation program
-our Writer's Workshop
-GED tutoring

We'll be looking for you soon!



Upcoming Events

GED Alumni Meeting - 12/16, Monday - 7:00 p.m.
GED Alumni Writers Workshop, 1/6 - Monday - 7:00 p.m.
GED Alumni Writers Workshop, 1/13 - Monday - 7:00 p.m.
GED Winter Graduation Ceremony - Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School - 1/20 - Monday - 7:00 p.m.

STEERING COMMITTEE
KEY ALUMNI

The Tuscarora Intermediate Unit - Alumni Staff recently appointed 8 KEY ALUMNI to the STEERING COMMITTE to plan and organize activities for the '85-'86 school year. Because the alumni group is large and most members do not know everyone, this KEY group will serve in the place of officers until late spring. By this time, the Alumni Association will be ready for an election to select leaders to continue Alumni activities for next year.

The KEY members were chosen for the interest and participation they have shown so far this year. These people have been actively involved and are ready and willing to answer questions you may have about particular events or activities.

Use your KEYS to keep you informed:

Terri Blessing	248-7318
Cathy Forsythe	248-4862
Denise Brittain	543-5463
Atha Workinger	667-3591
Sharon Youtzy	248-9761
Robin Kelley	248-8495
Patsy Cavenaugh	242-0447
Barb Fultz	248-2187

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BACK TO SCHOOL

Note: During the first week of GED classes, students are asked to jot down a few of their first impressions of our programs, their hopes and fears. The following are a few examples:

I started GED classes on Monday, September 9. I was a little nervous at first. I will have to study hard because I've been out of school so long, but hopefully it will get easier. I am pleased that most of the girls are from the Arrow Co.

Sue Pachard

I enjoy coming to class and I enjoy the teacher, the books seem strange to me after so many years of not doing "homework" but if I want this for myself I will hope to accomplish it, with the help of friends and teachers it might turn into a great success for me. It's just a very strange feeling of going back to "school" and a little hard for me also after so many years.

Denise Brittain

I was really amazed at how much of a difference taking these classes made in my feelings about myself. I finally feel that I am taking steps to become a normal, educated person. I never realized how being classed as a high school dropout affected me. I really thought I was able to push it aside and not let it bother me. But at last I feel I will graduate and that I can go on and do whatever I want to with my life. All it will take is a little effort on my part.

Terri Blessing

At age 51, I was nervous but also excited to see how well I could do. Now I am very anxious to learn so I can pass my GED. Plus having a nice teacher and a nice group of girls, it is a lot easier.

Patsy Cavanough

My first day in class was very exciting, and I was scared. Now I have settled down some because everyone was very nice. I have been wanting to take my GED for years, but felt I could not pass it. When I lost my job I decided that unless I tried, I would not know if I could pass it or not. I want so much to get my GED because I would like to go in to secretary work.

Barbara Myers

First Impressions

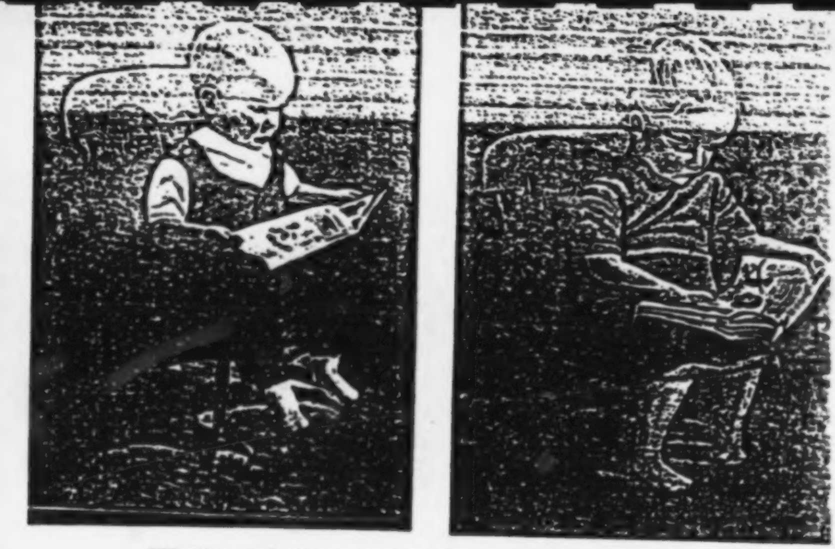
I was looking forward to this particular Monday more than the other Mondays I've had since I started back to work this school year. I was feeling like I'd had a slow start even though I had been busy with intake forms, reading tests and all the other necessary preparations to get our programs off to a good start. But this Monday was special: our first GED class of the school year met.

Walking out to meet with this group I immediately felt the tension in the air: excitement, anxiety, eagerness. I had previously met most of the students individually but seeing them altogether in a group was different. Who was who? I was momentarily taken back. I wanted to greet them all individually but felt a bit lost myself. But what I was sure of as I looked around the table at these 12 women was how they were looking at me with great expectations. While being frightened and nervous, these women had taken a very important first step: they had taken the risk to learn again in a school - infor- as it is - setting.

As I began to relearn the group as individuals I began to feel their excitement and know that this was a very special group. Here we had a gathering of a great variety of personalities, life styles and backgrounds yet joined on the common ground of wanting to learn and grow and accomplish their united goal: achieving a GED high school diploma. Something else I felt from this group right away which in other groups often takes many classes to establish was the feeling and support and encouragement they offered to each other. This is a group that will work for success and help each other along all the way. Perhaps this group unity exists because several of the women had worked together previously but I also think these are just supportive women. They will do their best and kindly help others to do their best too.

As our first class ended and all the routine business of a first meeting was behind us, I felt strongly that this would be a very good year.

Carol Malek



GED Alumna Delores Hambright captures the innocent look of these children in her paintings

GED ARTISTS

We presently have with us in the GED program three very talented artists. They are Delores Hambright, Joan Secrest and Marie Tate.

Delores is an artist who deals in oil paints. Even though she discovered her artistic ability in high school, she has only been painting on a regular basis for 5 years. Her ability to paint covers a vast variety of subjects. She enjoys experimenting and definitely likes a challenge. After completing her GED, Delores plans to continue learning and developing her painting ability.

Next we have Joan Secrest. Joan's specialty is stenciling. After attending seminars in Columbus, Ohio, she is now a certified teacher in stenciling. One of her favorite projects is making door signs. Joan and her husband Alvin are in the process of opening a new shop called "Secrest's Stenciling" where they plan to offer a variety of craft classes and supplies along with finished gift ideas. After finishing her GED, aside from the shop, Joan would like to further her schooling in the clerical field.

Our third talented artist is Marie Tate. Marie deals in Folk Art, which she's been doing now for 15 years. Marie's talent is mostly self taught although she has had some private lessons. Her favorite subject is flowers. Marie, with the help of her husband Dave, travels around to the different craft shows, where she places her exhibit for sale. Marie's future plans after completing her GED are to continue painting and to

We certainly encourage our artists in th efforts and wish them all the best. They se a good example that it really is "Never To Late" to do what you want to do.

Terri Blessing

Graduates near and FAR

Congratulations to our Alumna, Deb Tate. After receiving her GED, Deb moved to Arizona and is working as a deli clerk. She also got married and she and her husband are now planning to go into the deli business themselves.

Pansy Smice is now living in Illinois. Since getting her GED she is off of public assistance and feels better about herself knowing she has been able to find a job and support her daughter and herself.

Spring Graduation Address 5/22/85

by Virginia Wileman

When Carol asked me to speak about my GED experience at this graduation party I was surprised, flattered and nervous. A lot of you have shared the feelings and experience I've had and hopefully my experience will encourage other adults to come back to school.

I quit school in 1972 while in the 12th grade. Like mostly everyone in a GED program I was sorry I quit school. But, because I went through so many grades, I had a good background for getting my GED. When I quit school in November of my senior year I had already been married for 6 months, I felt out of place in school and so dropped out.

Through the years after leaving school, returning was on my mind. I once tried to re-enroll in Lewistown High School but that didn't work out. I was busy raising my 3 kids but never lost the desire to go back to school. I thought of getting my GED but was afraid I couldn't do it.

I finally came to the program here at the Vo-Tech School for my own personal satisfaction and because my mother had wanted me to very much. She passed away in December and it made her happier knowing I was going to finish my education. I felt I had wasted my eleven years of schooling and I had to finish what I started. I learned or relearned most of what I had forgotten in school or didn't care to learn before. I thought my biggest problem was math and it might have been if I hadn't taken the classes. Studying English made me more conscious of what I say or write. It has helped a lot. I now speak better and can write better too.

Being in GED classes was good for me. I felt good about myself and it was nice to be back in school. I really liked school when I was younger and I was glad to go back and finish. It was good to be in a class with people in a similar situation.

Getting my GED diploma helped me get the job I have now at the Mary Coldren Retirement Center in Mifflintown. I had applied for it some months earlier but wasn't hired. After I got my GED, I went back and told the supervisor I was more

experienced and that I had gotten my GED. I was hired that day! My GED has helped me get a job I love so much. I don't make a lot of money but that doesn't matter. It's the job and the people I care for that is important.

I am more confident now and I'm most proud of myself for achieving my goal. You never really know just how important a diploma is to you until you are older and regret the mistakes you have made.

My GED has hopefully enabled me to fulfill my lifelong dream of becoming an LPN. It was mother's hope and dream to see this all happen but it was not meant to be. My future is planned pretty much for right now. I will be attending the LPN training program here at the Vo-Tech School beginning in September. I plan to work at the retirement center on weekends while I am in school. After completion of the training I am staying at the retirement center so I can give the residents better care than I can now. Later on down the road I would like to work with the Hospice program and cancer patients.

I would like to thank my mother for the strength to go on and Carol for helping me achieve my dreams and to my family and friends for putting up with me while I hit the books and being supportive of me. Just think it's not over yet. With my new confidence and GED diploma, I'm looking forward to the challenge of the future.

Thank you.

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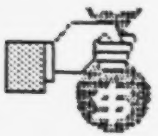
MAYBE I'LL
TAKE UP A HOBBY
MAYBE I'LL LEARN A NEW
LANGUAGE MAYBE I'LL
MAYBE I'LL
STAY DOWN
LESS EFFORT
Jim Davis

VOLUNTEER TUTORS

GED Alumni can lend a hand to other adult learners by becoming volunteer tutors. Tutors work one on one with a person who needs help in one of the 5 subject areas of the GED test.

Ask yourself:
  Do you like working with others?
  Do you feel especially competent in a particular area of study?
  Would you like to help an adult achieve the same goal as you have?

Volunteer an hour a week to help someone else. Call 248-3933 or stop in the Vo-Tech library to sign up.



GRADUATION SPEAKER WINS SCHOLARSHIP

Virginia Wileman, a graduate of our JTPA/GED program last spring recently won a nursing scholarship from the Soroptimist Club of Lewistown. The club makes such an award twice yearly to a worthy nursing student in the area. Marsha Soult, chairperson of the Youth Activities Committee presented the scholarship to Virginia recently at Leora's Cafeteria in Lewistown. Virginia has been enrolled since September at the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School in the LPN program. Congratulations Virginia on being honored by this award.

BACK TO THE BOOKS

Several of our GED Alumni have successfully completed the next stage of their educational careers:

Atha Workinger - graduate South Hills Business School - employed at Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School

Jean Winn - graduate South Hills Business School - employed as Manager of Steve's Auto Service

Wilma Blevins - graduate Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School - LPN - employed at William Penn Nursing Home

Sandi Trutt - completed Job Search Workshop - employed at Skills

Kathryn Bigelow - graduate Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School - LPN - employed at Nipple Convalescent Center

Alumni currently enrolled in school are:

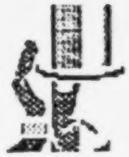
Silvana Marshall - South Hills Busines School

Virginia Wileman - Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School - LPN training

Wanda Fultz - taking correspondence course in accounting

Terri Blessing - South Hills Business School

JoAnn Davis - completed Job Search Workshop - starting Juniata-Mifflin Ar Vocational-Technical School - LPN and employed at Valley View Haven Nursing Home



BE PROUD!

The local GED Alumni Group can help GED Alumni who have "graduated" from GED test preparation programs by showing their knowledge through the General Education Development (GED) Test.

GED Alumni Group members are given an opportunity to share experiences with other GED Alumni, help each other in a number of ways including finding jobs in the community, taking advantage of training and educational opportunities and working together to raise the awareness of the community toward the GED Credential and what it means.

The local GED Alumni Group can help the local Adult Basic Education Program including the GED preparation program by contacting adults who could benefit from the program, helping adult learners who are attending local GED classes over some of the "rough spots" and providing support for the adult education programs in their community.

The local GED Alumni Group can help the thousands of undereducated adults throughout Pennsylvania - 6000 in Mifflin County - 47% adults over 25 - by providing an organized, identifiable group of supporters for adult education in the state. These are some of the things an organized local GED Alumni Group can do.

One of the goals of most local GED Alumni groups is group activity designed to raise the level of awareness of the community to what the GED program is and what it means to have a GED diploma or certificate.

Many persons in and out of education, and unfortunately, many GED Alumni feel their satisfactorily completing the GED test is not really the same as learning as much as the high school graduate. This is not true.

In most cases a GED test graduate has learned more than the average high school graduate.

The passing score for the GED test in Pennsylvania (225 points total on the five parts of the test and no lower than 35 on single part) is a higher score than could attained by 70% or nearly three-fourths of the high school graduates in the state. Percentile scores of 90 percent and highe are not uncommon for Pennsylvania GED preparation program alumni. This means, example, a person receiving a score in th 90th percentile has scored higher than 90 of the adults in the country who have tak the test.

Believe in Yourself and
Believe in the GED Credential
as being something for which you
have worked hard and which should
show you can compete satisfactorily
with nearly any high school graduate

Employers rate education high when it comes to hiring and promotion and for almost all businesses, a high school equivalency credential, such as a GED certificate, is as good as a diploma.

In a nationwide survey conducted by the American Council on Education's Office on Educational Credit and Credentials, more than 90 percent of employers say they place "a major or moderate" emphasis on education.

Almost all reported that a high school equivalency credential is as valid as a high school diploma when it comes to employment and advancement.

The study found that:

-More than 96 percent of companies give persons holding traditional high school diplomas and persons holding equivalency credentials the same starting salary.

-Nearly 97 percent provide the same initial level of employment to persons with an equivalency credential as to those with high school diplomas.

-About 98 percent provide the same opportunity for advancement.

from - PA's GED Alumni Organizational Handbook

GED DIARY

Terri Blessing is a recent GED graduate who participates in our Alumni Writers Workshop. The following excerpts are from her journal on the days she finally passed her GED test.

Thursday, 10/17/85

You talk about test terror. We all thought it was silly to get that upset over a test. I felt I always handled tests well. That is until it came time for me to take it. I came home from math class with a headache I thought was from being tired and taxing my brain. I went to bed and couldn't sleep. My eyes hurt something awful. Even when they were closed it felt like they were straining to see through my eyelids. All I could see in my mind was Jamie writing math problems on the blackboard. After three hours of tossing and turning I started getting sick in my stomach. I struggled with that for awhile and finally ended up running into the bathroom. I kept telling myself "This is silly" but my body didn't listen. All day Thursday I felt about half sick. When I finally went in to take my test I wasn't sure I was going to make it. That's when the familiar voice of my classroom friends began to calm my fears. That and a quick "Be with me God." About the fifth question on my first test everything was gone. Now once again I feel that it is silly to get upset about a test.

Friday, 10/18/85

Boy do I feel good this mornin in spite of the fact I laid awake a night thinking about all the possibilities ahead of me. Everyt I've always hated about myself an my life are subject to change. Starting with furthering my educat Imagine me, Terri Blessing, going to a school equivalent to a colleg It only took me twelve years, but I'm doing it and I feel I'm doing i well. And that makes me feel goo After completing my schooling, I plan on encouraging my kids to be all they can be and do all they ca do. And I plan on being there anc being a part of it all I can. I hop to go to work at a job I enjoy for a change. After I start to work I am also hoping to start changing all the things in my house that I don't. Who knows, maybe we'll just chang houses. At any rate I have hope, c right now that's a lot more than I h before.

Saturday, 10/19/85

Well I did it! As of 9:55 this morning I passed my GED. I can now officially call myself a high school graduate.

I kept praying for a least a 46 in math, saying I would settle for a 45. Just let me pass! As it turned out I got a 53. I was so excited. I wanted to holler but I bit my lip and held it in out of consideration for the others.

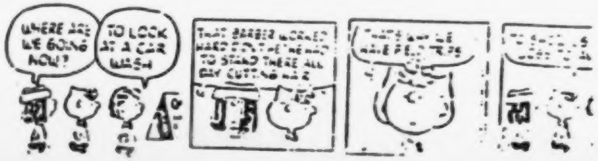
After I got the passing results, the first thing I did was run home and call my sister. Thank goodness she was home. We talked for over thirty minutes - long distance. I didn't care, I felt I deserved it.

Now when I see GED classes being offered in the Sentinel and on TV, they can no longer haunt me. I took the step, I won the fight. My diploma battle is over!

GRADUATE UPDATE

Congratulations to our Alumnae who became mothers last spring. All the best to you and your little ones.

Linda Goss
Robin Kelley
Annette Colyer


WHERE ARE WE GOING NOW?
TO LOOK AT A CAR WASH
THAT BARBER WORKED HARD ... TO STAND THERE ALL DAY CUTTING HAIR

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BEHIND THE SCENES

As a person who prefers to stay behind the scenes, I can clearly observe what receiving a GED diploma means to people.

This is my second year to work with this program. When I first came to work here I only knew what those three initials - GED - stood for - General Education Development. Now I realize that it means many hours of studying, testing and lots of encouragement from Carol and the other teachers. After that it means a whole new outlook on life for many people. I have seen the confidence that comes from receiving your GED diploma.

Likewise, the Job Search Workshops are very beneficial. If you have the opportunity to take advantage of this program - do it! You may never realize the skills and abilities you have until you have participated in this type of workshop.

The third part of my job is working with the Alumni Association. It's good to see GED graduates have the opportunities to participate in activities which they missed because of quitting high school. Not only do the members of this organization receive support and encouragement but they can also give this same support and encouragement to other GED students.

It's very rewarding for me to see the results obtained from all of these programs.

Ginger Shade

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

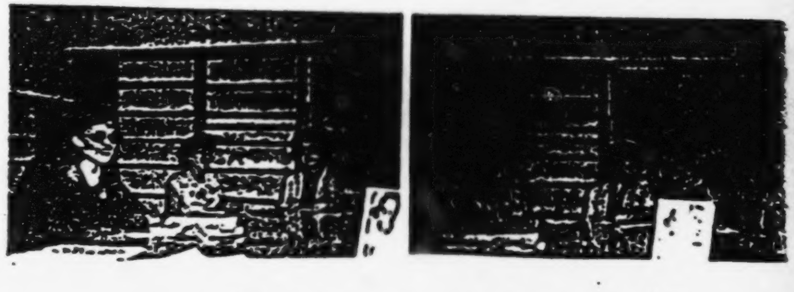
Lots is going on these days in our center at the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical Scho Our programs this year are as follows:

JTPA ABE/GED
JTPA ABE/GED for Ex-Arrow workers
JTPA Job Search Worksh
PDE 306 ABE
PDE 306 GED
GED Alumni Association

What's it all mean?

JTPA - Job Training Partne Act
ABE - Adult Basic Educatio
GED - General Education Development
PDE - Pennsylvania Depart of Education

That's a lot of letters! V all boils down to though is adult in our community is n eligible for adult education at our center. Come and se



Alumni Enjoying November's Meeting

MARY'S MENU

by Mary Specht

My holiday meals are made from lots of love, luck and my special recipes.

Thanksgiving dinner consists of:

turkey, filling, sweet
potatoes, my special
baked corn and topped
with my own fruit cookies

Baked Corn

2 eggs slightly beaten
2 Tbsp. butter
2 Tbsp. sugar
1 cup milk
2 Tbsp cornstarch
1 can cream style corn
salt and pepper to taste

mix ingredients and place in a buttered casserole, sprinkle sugar on top (2 Tbsp.) - bake at 350 degrees for 1½ hr.

Mary's Drop Cookies

1½ cup water
1 lb. seedless raisins

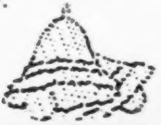
cook 15 minutes, add 1 tsp. soda and let cool

Mix together:

1 box brown sugar
2½ c. shortening
3 eggs
2 tsp. baking powder
4 cups of flour
1 tsp. vanilla
½ cup walnuts
1 cup maraschino cherries
then add your raisins

bake at 375 degrees for 10 to 12 minutes

Drop off your special recipes for publication in our next newsletter.



WHAT TO WEAR.....

Delores Fultz

Today, I hate everything in my closet. Nothing seems to be what I want. I'd love to be the master designer for just one day. Everyone would get blank yardage to wrap himself just however he wanted Then the master stroke of genius - just by thinking hard the fabric could be conformed to whatever image we chose. It could instantly be prepared for any occasion just by using your brain. Oh the styles you could try, the versatility, everyone could be well dressed. But would they? No, we wouldn't all be look-alikes, because love of beauty and sense of style are very individual traits.

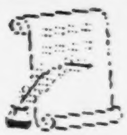
"Hmmm . . . quite thought provoking."

KID CONNECTION '86

The GED Alumni Association will have an activity table at the Kid Connection in downtown Lewistown in April. We plan to involve 3000-5000 children in our "make a graduate" project. The craft was designed by Terri Blessing and we'll need lots of help to get ready for this event. We'll need people to assemble the graduate beforehand and people to man the table during the event. Help us! This is a great opportunity to do something nice for local children, and promote adult education and our organization as well.

REPORT CARD

"I didn't want to peek too soon."



Our Words, Our Voices, Our Worlds.

Congratulations to 3 of our GED class writers: Virginia Mowery, Silvana Marshall and Atha Workinger. Each of these women had a piece of writing selected for publication in Our Words, Our Voices, Our Worlds - selected Poetry and Prose by Pennsylvania's Adult Basic Education students. It is an honor for Mifflin County to have 3 representatives in this booklet of writing from adults all over Pennsylvania.

This year the Writers Workshop - a group of GED Alumni, will be putting together a similar publication of writings from our local adults. You don't have to be a member of the Workshop to contribute writing for consideration. Any type of writing will be considered: essays, short stories, poetry, etc. If you have questions, see one of our KEY Alumni members or any staff in the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School. We need your input. And if you are interested in attending our Writers Workshop - please join us!

"Your son has made a career choice, Mildred. He's going to win the lottery and travel a lot."

HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!

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November GED graduates
Karen Rhodes and Rhonda Pa

Our list of GED GRADU
continues to grow.......

Paul Kirchoff
Howard Osborne
Dale Spickler
Terri Blessing
Denise Brittain
Joan Caruso
Patsy Cavanaugh
Barbara Myers
Sharon Youtzy
Denise Gilkey
Melanie Druckenmill
Sue Packard
Elaine Barger
Glenda Smith
Pat Bloom
Charlotte Sambenetti
Marsha Staley
Dolly Davis
Mary Specht
Karen Rhodes
Delores Hambright
Rhonda Parks
Ann Wilson
Sherrie Weaver
Annis DeArment
Carol Folk
Joan Secrest

The GED Alumni Association i
in part by the Tuscarora Intern
Unit and the Pennsylvania Dep
of Education.

GED ALUMNI STAFF incl.

Carol Molek - Co-ordinato
Bill Ryan - Counselor
Ginger Shade - Secretary

Never Too Late News

THE MIFFLIN COUNTY GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER – SPRING – 1986

Winter Graduation

To postpone or not postpone — that was the question. On January 20 our cakes were baked, the room was decorated, and invitations had been accepted; then it snowed. After much deliberation it was decided that, bad weather and all, our Winter Graduation would take place as planned.

We made the right decision! As it turned out, the weather cleared up and our 54 graduates were properly honored. Our center in the Vo-Tech Library was packed with over 100 people. We've finally outgrown this room for graduation and will have to move to the school cafeteria for our next event.

The speakers at graduation were Carol Malek, Supervisor/Instructor; Terri Blessing, GED Alumna; Jamie Snyder, GED Teacher and JTPA Representative; and Dr. Dale Heller, Executive Director of Tuscarora Intermediate Unit. Although the audience enjoyed all the speakers, Terri Blessing in speaking about her own personal GED experience, stole the show.

All graduates were presented with Certificates of Completion from our program and some special awards were given also. Patsy Cavanaugh received a poster of Michael Leon, star of the TV show "Days of Our Lives." Terri Blessing received a calculator to help her through her accounting courses at South Hills. Peg Williams received an award as a student who put forth "Extra Effort" working towards her GED diploma.

The graduation evening was topped with the drawing for our Alumni Association raffle and refreshments. It was an evening everyone will remember and plans for our spring graduation are going on now!

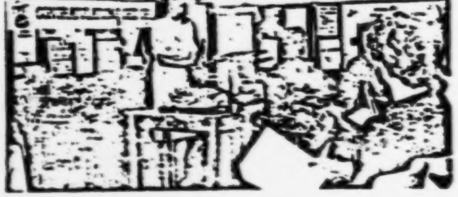
KID CONNECTION

Our plans for the April 26 (rain date – May 3) "KID CONNECTION" in downtown Lewistown are underway. The GED Alumni Association will operate an activity table for the children. Kids will be making a styrofoam "Graduate" to take home to their families and promote the ideas in our community that it's never too late to learn.

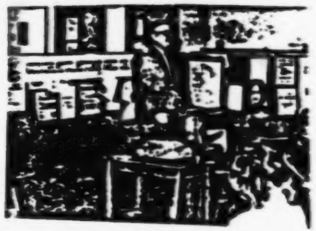
We need volunteers to spend 1 hour of their time working at the table. We also need people to help prepare materials on April 21. We need a lot of support on this activity.

Please sign up soon!!

A packed house on graduation night.



Graduation Speakers: Terri Ble
Jamie Snyder, Dr. Dale Heller



Graduation Address: Terri Blessing
January 20, 1986

As I was thinking about preparing this speech I wondered what I could possibly say that those of you that have gone through the GED program haven't already heard and said. You've all been there and know the feeling of accomplishment you get by getting your diploma.

I'm only sorry it took me so long to do it. I quit school at the end of my junior year. It took me eleven years to get up the nerve to even consider going for my diploma. I kept telling myself I didn't really need it and I would go for it when I was ready.

Finally when the Arrow Co. closed down I decided I did need it and I'd better get ready. I enrolled in the GED classes in September of 1985. Once I started the classes I began to enjoy the challenge of education. I found a group of people reaching for the same goal as me, who became very dear and close friends. We encouraged each other. We taught each other and together we made it through.

You never really know how important a diploma is until you've been without one and have had to go back after being out of school for several years to get one.

My diploma has changed my life in several ways. I'm more self confident in my abilities and I feel good about my goals. I am presently enrolled in South Hills Business School. I am working on a career in the business field. When I finish this, I hope to return as a tutor to the GED program. I also want to work with the adult Literacy Program in teaching adults to read.

I feel the GED staff is to be highly commended for their time and effort they put into helping others reach their goals. And I want to give a special thanks to my husband Steve for all his loving encouragement and support. My whole family has made a lot of sacrifices for me to reach my goals, and I give them all a big and loving Thank You.

Secretaries Atha Workinger and Ginger Shade celebrating graduation.

The Days and Nights of my GED Testing

by Denise Brittain
GED Alumna

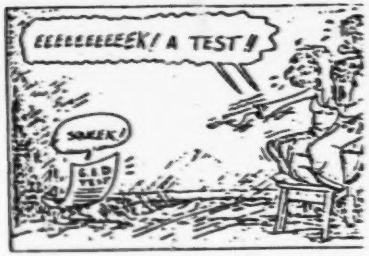
It's Thursday. I'm so excited! Thrilled! Words just can't describe how I feel, at least half of the battle is fought. I took some of my GED Test tonight and did better than I expected. I took reading, science and social studies. On reading I got a 41, on science a 51, and on social studies a 52. I was in a state of shock for about 20 minutes. I was so excited I even called Carol to tell her how well I did. I felt a little bad after I called because she may have been asleep. I just wanted to share my enthusiasm with someone who would care. I'm happy for myself, very proud of myself and have high hopes for accomplishing a lot more in life.

Saturday I go out to take the GED for math and English. I hope I do as good on them too. I wanted to stay tonight and just finish them all, that's how excited I was, I wanted to tackle the other two right away.

I was a bundle of nerves all day today. Carol said not to be nervous but being human you couldn't help but to be a little nervous. Last night I could hardly sleep and I dreamed about "Jack and Jill" of all things. I tried to get a little nap this afternoon but I couldn't fall asleep then either so after I took Don to work I came home and got supper for the kids so it would be ready when they came home from school. I got a bath and I felt invigorated and was raring to get started.

I went and picked up Joan at least 15 minutes before I was supposed to. When we got out at the school (Chief Logan High School), we weren't really sure if we were at the right parking place so these two young boys were walking by and I asked them if that was the lower parking lot. He said he didn't know so he asked us what we were there for and we said GED Testing. Guess what the one boy said, "GED Testing, never heard of it!" We both burst out laughing, it was just the way he said it that struck us as funny. Joan said "Of all things!"

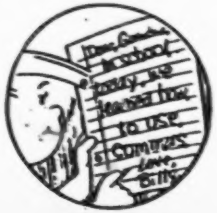
All in all things went pretty smoothly for all concerned who took the tests. There weren't that many there, but I felt pretty comfortable with what people were there, and the test seemed easier to me. I hope they are just as easy on Saturday morning.


EEEEEEEEEEEK! A TEST !!
SQUEEK!
G.E.D. TEST

Saturday 11:05 a.m.

I'm more excited today than I was on Thursday night but I'm a little scared too. Believe it or not I passed my GED course, that's really terrific! Larry Knepper wasn't there today, some young woman was taking his place. Anyways, I took my writing test first, and my average on the writing was a 52, then on math my average was 41.

I had to wait for Joan to finish because she was riding with me today. After I asked this woman (I can't remember her name) if I made it or no and she had said yes, I went back and sat down to wait for Joan. I got to thinking to myself wondering if I really passed or not. I kept saying over to myself, "This isn't real, you'l wake up and be dreaming." I just ke thinking that the woman added the scores up wrong and I didn't make it and on Monday Carol would say "Denise, they averaged your test scores up wrong, you have to take th tests all over again." I sat a little while longer and it got the best of me so I went up and said to her "Would y minding checking my scores again because I can't believe that I passed; maybe you added it up wrong." She got my test sheets out and added them all up again (no doubt thinking I was a crazy person for being so nervous). My test scores added together were 237 and my average was 47 and she looked at me and said, "You really did pass!"



Apple Cake Deluxe

by Patsy Cavanaugh
GED Alumna

When I make an Apple Cake, the first thing I do is to get all the ingredients out and put them on the counter. Then I grease and flour the cake pan, then I measure 1 cup of raisins, chop ½ cup of walnuts, and dice 3½ cups of apples. Next, out comes the mixer and bowl, in the bowl I put 1 3/4 cups sugar, 3 eggs, and 1 cup oil. This I blend together, then I add 2 cups unsifted flour, 1 teaspoon soda, ½ teaspoon salt, and 1 teaspoon cinnamon. Mix well. Then I fold the 3½ cups of apples and 1 cup raisins to the batter. Then I put all the batter in the prepared cake pan. Sprinkle the chopped nuts on top.

Bake 350 degrees, 50 minutes to 1 hour. Cool slightly and sprinkle with powdered sugar.

After all the above I wash and dry all the dishes, and put everything away to its proper places.

Our Happily Related Graduates

This school year, achieving a GED diploma was a family affair for quite a few of our students. These people learned that having someone to work with and support you right in your own family can really help you along. As graduate Kate Benner told us, "When Nancy felt like quitting I encouraged her and when I felt like quitting, she kept me going." That's a great way to stick with it!

Congratulations to you all!

Sisters: Elva and Julia Graybill
Kate Benner and Nancy Druckenmiller
Darlene McCardle and Yvonne Ross

Spouses: Carolyn and Gary Bender
Lyle and JoAnn Davis

Pictured above are some of our related GED students (and Peg Williams). Front row - Darlene McCardle, Peg Williams, Carolyn Bender, JoAnn Davis; Back row - Kate Benner, Nancy Druckenmiller Yvonne Ross, Gary Bender, Lyle Davis.

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Promotion

Congratulations to GED graduate Peg Williams, on her recent promoti to Activities Co-ordinator. One of the reasons Peg started out studying for her GED was because she had been passed over for promotions at work. A promoted position required a high school diploma and that left Peg out in the cold. After lots of hard work, Peg got her GED in January and just that week a promot became available. She applied, an this time she got it! Much success to you, Peg, in your new job!

GED Alumni Convention News

by Atha Workinger
GED Alumna

As most of you know, the GED Alumni Association had a convention in Hershey, PA, on February 5, 6 and 7. It was held at the Hershey Convention Center and quite a few alumni attended, along with GED teachers, GED administrators, and GED alumni organizers.

From our area Becky Burns, Jamie Snyder, Jane Hollister, Patsy Cavanaugh, Cathy Forsythe, and I attended. Carol Malek, our Instructor/Supervisor, was ill with the February Flu and of course didn't get to go. So we all tried to bring news home to her.

I went with Becky on Wednesday, February 5. We got there before lunch time and found out where we were to go after the luncheon, that lasted from 12:00 to 2:30. There were speakers at the luncheon and GED students who were chosen to give their success stories on why they took the GED classes and how it affected their lives. A Congressman from each one's area honored them with an award.

After the luncheon we went to a meeting room and each student who was honored gave his or her success stories. We heard some very good testimonies. One person was chosen as PA Adult Student of the Year. The chosen person was a man who was in his fifties and really had some hard times, but overcame them all to get his GED diploma.

After the award presentation, we went to the GED Alumni Meeting. There were three groups of people representing three different areas, who told how their Alumni Associations got started, why it was started, how they got people together, what they were doing, where they met, and future plans that were made. I talked about our Alumni Association and I felt really proud because we only started in November and we have recruited, planned the Graduation, sponsored it, had a fund raiser (raised $230), decided to have guest speakers each month, and got involved with the KID CONNECTION. Some associations even had a hard time finding a place to meet and some had trouble getting people together. We've come a long way in the past three months.

On Thursday, Cathy, Patsy, and I went down for an Alumni Association Workshop and Ken Calkin, Industry/Education Co-ordinator of the TIU, talked about our GED. Again, there was more discussion of the Alumni Associations starting, plans and things that they are doing and have done. We talked about our Association and what we have done.

Most of the people who attended Thursday's meeting were new people. They were interested in what we were doing for the KID CONNECTION and also about the KID CONNECTION itself, and if the Alumni Association started it. I said no, but that would be a good project for the Alumni Association to start in their areas.

Well, I could go on and on but I think I've said enough but would like to share more information with you at our meetings. So, see you then.

Next year, maybe you could attend the convention, it was really very interesting.

……

FRENCH FRIES!!
UH!

Thank You

A special thank you to our alumni: Atha Workinger, Patsy Cavanaugh, and Cathy Forsythe for attending the Mid-Winter Conference in Hershey in February. It was great for me to know that even though I couldn't be there, we were very well represented. I'm particularly grateful to Atha for taking on the responsibility of participating in 2 workshops at the conference. She did a great job!

Carol

Job Search Success

Teresa Orr, a recent participant in our JTPA Job Search Program has the kind of story we like to hear. With all the job search skills Teresa learned in our workshops she set out to get a clerical job. This field was new to Teresa: she had some schooling in clerical skills but not on the job training since she had last worked at the Arrow Co.

Teresa stopped in Kauffman's Music and Furniture Store and asked for an application. She had no indication that a job opening existed there. She was friendly and talked to the secretary explaining her skills. The next day she returned her properly filled out application and tried to see Mr. Kauffman but he wasn't in. So the following day she called and talked to Mr. Kauffman telling him about her skills and trying to set up an interview.

Teresa had her interview — over an hour long — with Mr. Kauffman and his secretary and then she was hired. She attributes some of her success to the telephone techniques she learned in job search and about her new job Teresa says, "I love it!"

Interview Questions

What stops an interviewee from getting a job? One reason is the failure to properly answer difficult interview questions. How to be ready to answer these questions? Practice!

Sample interview questions:

Tell me about yourself.
What is your greatest strength? Weakness?
What do you see yourself doing five years from now?
What courses in school did you like the best? Least?
What is your greatest accomplishment in life?

Other Job Searchers who learned, "It's not always the best skilled person who gets the job, but the person with the best Job Search Skills."

JoAnn Davis - Valley View Haven
Donna Fredd - Lewistown Hospital
Kate Benner - Country Garden Six Pac
Ella Mae Eckley - Sentinel
Judy Alexander - Mifflin County Child Development
Kim Weaver - Amity Fashions
Donna Armstrong - Tiempo
Marsha Staley - Stanley Company
Patsy Cavanaugh - Jamesway
Nancy Goss - Tiempo
Kay Hockenberry - Trinity
Denise Gilkey - Displays
Connie Hartsock - UPS
Atha Workinger - JTPA
Cindy Aurand - UPS

Setting Goals — How To Do It

by Stephanie Winston

-Describe a "perfect" day that you'd like to lead five years down the road. Describe both work and personal life. How does that day differ from the days you now spend?

-From your two visions - perfection and current reality - list specific long range goals. Of those, pick the most important.

-Break the goals into concrete tasks and give the deadlines - daily, weekly, monthly. Write them in on your calendar.

-Cut down on activities that don't match your long term goals.

- Monitor your progress with specific checkpoints.

Dear Mother B......

You've heard of "Dear Abby" and "Dear Ann", well we now have our very own resident advice colmnist for the "Never Too Late News." Can you guess the true identity of Mother B?

C ATULATION

Dear Mother B.,

Please settle an argument. My friend says you have to have a high school or GED diploma nowadays to get a job. I say I can get a job without one. Who's right?

High School Drop-Out

Dear D.O.,

If I were a betting woman, I'd lay my money on your friend. It's a sure thing — you need that certificate. It's getting to the point that an employer won't even speak to you, much less hire you, unless you have that diploma. Times are changing and the competition is getting tough. You need to make yourself as employable as possible.

Stop selling yourself short — get that GED diploma. Believe me, it's just the beginning.

Mother B.

Dear Mother B.,

My kids want to know why they have to finish school when I never did.

To tell you the truth, I'd love to come to GED classes and get my diploma, but I'm scared.

I've been out of school for such a long time — and I never liked school when I was a kid. What should I do?

Frightened in Mifflin Cour

Dear Frightened,

You know, your kids have a legitimate question. The best way to teach is by example...so now, it's up to you to set a good example for them.

Remember, everyone in GED has been away from the books for awhile. (We have people from 18 - 61 in our program and I know of a man 84 years old who just got his GED).

As for hating school, while it's true that you are doing school work, the GED classes are a far cry from school as you remember it The classes are very informal and they're successful and fun because there is group effort among student and teachers alike. No one is competing with any one else — everyone works together to learn and support each other.

Give it a try — there's absolute nothing to lose and, a whole new world to gain!

Mother B.

If you have any questions, ideas, doubts, fears, etc. send them to Mother B. c/o GED or place them in the advice box located in the GED classroom.

Congratulations to Betty Searer Jon on her recent marriage. Betty start GED testing on Thurday, February I got married Friday, February 14; finished testing on Saturday, Februa Congrats again!!

Alumna Letter from ILLINOIS
by Pansy Sarver
GED Alumna

Dear Carol,

Hi! Its been awhile since I last wrote to you. I got laid off in November and started babysitting. Today I received a phone call letting me know I will be going back to work on the 8th. I was so happy that they had called me back. I really liked working at PNC. I will be getting my divorce on the 14th and I am doing things with my life now that I couldn't do while I was married and living with my husband. I have my job and daughter and I have our relationship back that we used to have before I even got married. I have gotten things I have wanted since I have a job. I have ordered china, jewelry and a stereo system.

I still thank you all out there for me receiving my GED because if it wasn't for it I wouldn't have my job. I have all of my papers yet and there is a guy here in Polo that is going for his and I am helping him with his work. But, if it weren't for you, I wouldn't be able to help him. Since I was working, this Christmas was the best Christmas my daughter has had in two years. I was able to buy her what she wanted as well as what she needed. How is the weather out there?

Here we have had a lot of snow and has been below zero a lot. I received my paper and read it and when I read what you wrote in it about me I had tears in my eyes because I thought you all forgot about me even being out there.

I talk about receiving my GED a lot! I tell people who don't have theirs they should go get it because after I got mine I felt better about going and filing an application for a job knowing I have a high school education. I feel better about myself also I encourage anyone who even talks about going and getting their GED to do it. I would like to thank you all out there who made it possible for me to get mine. Thank you! Tell everyone - Ginger, Bill and the rest I said "Hello!"

Sincerely,
Pansy

Congratulations to Lisa McCullough on her new baby!

****

Happy Anniversary to Gary and Pl Snook...... the couple who studi together, stays together. What di Snook's do on the night of their 2 wedding anniversary? Come to En class — of course!

GED Alumni Questionnaire

We received some interesting responses to an alumni questionnai we distributed. Here are some responses to the question,

"Did having your GED help you to get your current (or past) job?"

- I had to have a diploma to get hire at the Viscose.
- One of the requirements for workin at Skills is a high school diploma.
- Koble Printing won't hire anyone without a diploma.
- By receiving my GED I learned ab JTPA which aided me in applying f jobs.
- I applied for this job once and they didn't hire me. I went back to the same place after I got my GED and they hired me right away.
- It enabled me to go to Practical Nursing School.

Here are some sample answers to th question,
"How has getting your GED made a difference in your life?"

- Feel better about myself.
- I did it for myself - it makes me fee good.
- Helped me get a job.
- I am off of public aid and am self-supporting.
- More confident of my abilities.
- More aware of what is going on arou me.
- I'm going on for advanced schooling
- I've obtained a good job that I reall enjoy and the pay is excellent.
- Started an accounting course.
- Entered Beauty School.
- Helped me become independent.
- Completed LPN School and am a Charge Nurse.
- Made me feel great.

We'd like to hear more! If achievin your GED changed your life, tell us about it. We'd like you to sh [illegible]

Awesome English

by Terri Blessing
GED Alumna

It never ceases to amaze me how my children continue to massacre the English language. And what's more it seems to be acceptable not only to them, but their friends as well.

I have never been a top notch grammar student, but phrases like "am I allowed going to?" and "am I allowed taking" make me cringe.

Another thing that really bugs me is every time something happens they come off with the words "decent" or "awesome." At first it was only my daughter, Angela, but as we were sitting in the living room watching TV my seven year old son come waltzing in talking to his sister. As I heard him tell her, she should have seen his car go through his tunnel and come back again. He exclaimed, "It was awesome!"

I have taken an oath, not only as a mother but as a renewed English student, that I will break them of this if it's the last thing I ever do. And knowing my two, it just may be the last thing I do!

Butterflies

by Becky Burns, Instructor

Butterflies in my stomach, sweaty palms, a lump in my throat...it's the first night of GED classes. I've been anxiously waiting for this night. Half of the time I've been excited, the other half - scared to death!

I don't know any of these people. What if they don't like me? Maybe I won't fit in.

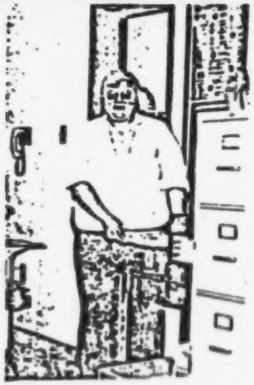
I hope I don't have trouble with the material. I'd hate to look stupid in front of the others.

Oh, dear, I hope I made the right decision when I said I'd do this. I hope I do okay. I don't want to fail. It's just that I've been away from this for such a long time...

Oh no, time to start. Here I go.

I think I can do it. I know I can give it my best shot...

It's the first night of GED classes; my first night as a teacher of adults — and I LOVE it!



TEACHER FEATURE

Teacher: Barb Goss

Personal Info: Lives in Strodes Mills, married to Dick Goss and has a son, Rich, who is 15 years old, and attends Lewistown High School.

Background: B.S. In Secondary Educa from Bloomsburg State University. Dua Certification - Public Speech/Communi Graduate work from The Pennsylvania University in Communications/English.

Work History: Associated with Mifflin County School District since 1972 and GED program since October 1985.

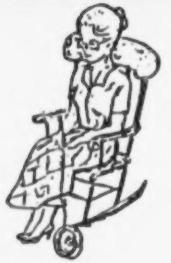
Interests: Archery - Barb serves as Sec Treasurer of Shawnee Archers. Church Reading, Embroidery.

Goals: To go back to college to compl her Master's Degree in Communications eventually to secure a permanent teachi position.

Special Comments: "In teaching I've f my life's work. It brings me great joy work with and get to know my students.

Job Hunt

As Tom Jackson, author of Guerilla Tactics in the Job Market, has well observed the Job-Hunting process may best be described as NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, YES. It only takes one YES from the organization you wish most to work for, to get you the job. Every "No" that you get out of the way, as you go will bring you that much closer to the only YES you need to hear.



Drawing by Delores Hambright
GED Alumna

Visiting My Grandparents

by Terri Blessing
GED Alumna

I went to visit my grandparents today. The only one who was home was my grandmother.

As we sat and talked, I noticed how age had crept up on her. To me it seemed like overnight. I kept remembering twenty years back when she was so much more active than she was today.

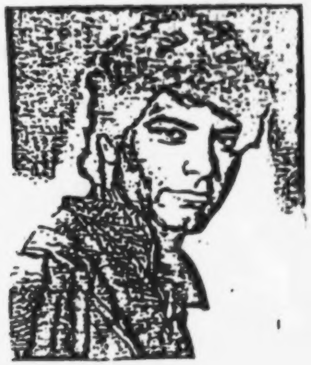
I remembered her making foam refrigerator magnets, crocheting pin cushions, and needlepointing tissue boxes for my grandfather to take up town or to the arts festival to sell.

Now as she sat on the couch, she seemed so tired and full of old age, pains, and problems. Her voice had lost its firmness. She sounded so weak and feeble. It was an effort for her to get her sentences out.

I looked over and saw my grandfather's empty chair, and I wondered "What will I do when these two dear people that I love so much are gone?" Instantly a second thought came rushing in to chase the first one away. "Your grandparents are not gone, they are still here. Enjoy them while you can."

Write - Write - Write

Enjoy reading our newsletter? We need your contributions of writing. Anything you feel other adults would enjoy reading is fine. By reading this newsletter you can get some ideas and we're always looking for new kinds of articles. We'll be waiting to hear from you soon!



Michael Leon — Promotes Adult Education

Michael Leon, star of NBC's "Days of Our Lives," is the official spokesperson for the California State Department of Education's "Second-Chance It with Me" campaign. The purpose of the campaign is to urge the state's 6 million drop-outs to go back to school and get their high school equivalency diplomas.

In the soap opera, Pete Jennings (played by Michael Leon) is a gang member who kidnaps the "sweet young thing" on the show and then falls in love with her. In trying to turn over a new leaf and win the girl over, he studies for his GED test. He passes, and begins a struggle to break from the gang, get a respectabl job, and secure a relationship with his girlfriend.

The California State Department o Education, seeing Pete as typical of many drop-outs living in today's worl wrote to Michael Leon, asking if he' be willing to donate some time influe drop-outs to go back and get their G Not only did Michael agree, but he expressed a deep personal interest in promoting the cause. As a drop-out himself, and because many of his friends dropped out, he felt that getting a second chance was an issue he wanted to make his own.

Coverage of Michael's campaign has been intensive. Michael has been featured in newspapers, magazin radio and TV promoting the idea of the importance of staying in school and discussing the drop-out problem. With a star like Michael as an advocate of adult education, we're all sure to benefit.

Alumni Update...

Congratulations to our newest graduates and alumni!

January Graduates

Cheryl McCartle
Westley McNemar
Anita Wise
Sandra Pannebaker
Lisa McCullough
Elizabeth Bender
Lyle Davis
Margaret Williams
David Zimmerman
Lanette Taylor
Mary Yocum
Carolyn Bender
Gary Bender
Marie Tate
Carol Harpster
Elva Graybill *
Julia Graybill

February Graduates

Leuraine Hesser
Earl Pecht
Walter Bell
Marie Grose
Mary McConahy
Betty Searer Jones
Mary Ann Laub *
Carlos Reyes
Scott Wolfgang
Diane Parson
Darwin Collins

March Graduates

Sandra Eversole
Steve Kephart
Bob Baker
Janice Miller
Phyllis Snook
Anna Allison
Deb Kurtz
Sandy Goss
Karen Hoar
Henry Ritter
Andrew J. Miller
Janie Snyder
Ed Feltman
Mid Kohler
Diane Decker *
Marvin Truscott
Mary Bilger

*High Scorer of the month

Alumni Association News

A lot is happening this spring in the GED Alumni Association:

- mini job search skill workshop 7 p.m. Monday, May 5, May 12
- meeting April 21, 7 p.m. (speaker to be announced)
- Kid Connection - April 26 - all day - downtown
- Spring Theater Trip
- Election of officers
- yearbook/scrapbook
- Graduation - Thursday - May 2 7 p.m.

We need your help to make all these projects successful. Join us!

The GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION enjoy hearing from JANE HOLLISTER of the M County Library Literacy Program at our A meeting.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Vacation in Nashville

by Patsy Cavanaugh
GED Alumna

July 23, 1980 - Jim and I took a five day vacation to Nashville, Tennessee, by "Yoder's Tourway" bus. We left town early in the morning and rode until late afternoon where we stayed at the Holiday Inn in Bristol, Virginia.

Early the next morning we left Bristol, Virginia, and traveled to Nashville where we stayed at "Days Inn." After we settled in our rooms and had dinner, we were able to rent a tour bus to see "The best of Nashville." Points of interest they showed us were: Fort Nashboro, Printers Alley, State Capital Building and Grounds, Record Row, WTVF-TV (Home of Hee Haw) and the Ryman Auditorium (Old Grand Ole Opry House). We also saw the homes of some stars like: Tip Ritter, Eddy Arnold, Minnie Pearl, Hank Williams, Ronnie Milsap, Tammy Wynette, Marty Robbins, Jessie Colter and Waylon Jennings. The next day after breakfast Yoder's bus took us to Opryland, we were there when they opened the gates. What a sight! It is beautiful. As we entered the park we were given a folder with a map of Opryland showing where everything was and each thing was numbered. They had 11 free shows on the grounds plus "The Grand Ole Opry House." Jim and I got to see 8 of the 11 shows. Some of the indoor theater shows were very beautiful. Then we went to the Opry House for the 3:00 p.m. show which we had the privilege to see Jeannie Seely, Jack Greene, Billy Walker, Jimmy Newman, Charlie Walker, Four Guys, and Ray Acuff. Well, we were there all day and saw everything we could in the time we had. We started home the next morning, before leaving Nashville we stopped at the home of President Andrew Jackson "The Hermitage." We saw the Mansion and the furnishings that belonged to the Jackson family; also the Original Hermitage - two log cabins where the Jackson family first lived. We went to the tomb where President and Mrs.

We stopped at Bristol, Virginia, to spend the night at the Holiday Inn. Bright and early Sunday morning we started our last day of travel and arrived in town around 6 o'clock, tired but also happy with the wonderful time we had and everything we were able to see and do.

This was my very first vacation and I shall never forget it, and I hope to go back to Nashville and Opryland. I loved every minute of it.

Patsy Cavanaugh

Hi-Ho, Hi-Ho, it's off to Work I Go....

Around 12 o'clock you'll find me here
Inside, just closing the door
Of the library at the Vo-Tech School
Where I work from 12 to 4.

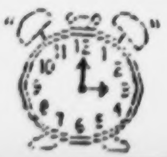
I look around for the welcoming smiles
Of Ginger and Becky and Carol.
They always stop and say "Hello,"
And, "What's the weather like out there now"

As this winter we've had so much snow,
And cold weather and sleet and ice
That we just can't wait till spring gets here
For spring warm weather will sure feel nice.

I hang up my coat, put my purse away,
It's time to get started to work.
Sometimes I type or answer the phone
or maybe there're papers to sort.

Before I know it, it's 4 o'clock
And time to get ready to go.
It seems that I started only minutes before,
You can see I love my job so!

Atha Workinger, Secretary
and GED Alumna



Press release from:
AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION

Writing Exercise Added to High School Equivalency Test

Washington, D.C., Sept. 25 — For the first time since the General Educational Development (GED) testing program began during World War II, students pursuing a high school equivalency credential — a GED diploma — will have to write an essay as part of the GED test. The writing exercise will be added to the test in 1988, the American Council on Education's Commission on Educational Credit and Credentials, which administers the program, announced today.

Citing the addition as a "momentous decision that responds to concerns throughout education about students' communication skills," the commission acted unanimously to approve the requirement. Richard Swartz, project director for the research on the GED essay, said the writing exercise was added "to more closely reflect high school curricula," which are increasingly requiring writing proficiency for high school graduation. In addition, he said, "An essay exercise measures writing more comprehensively than do the current multiple choice questions."

The addition of the essay also is expected to have a dramatic impact on adult education courses, which have traditionally taught grammar and drill in the name of writing skills, the commission said. Swartz said the writing exercise will prompt the addition of essay writing to the adult education programs taken by most people preparing for the test. "Our studies indicated that few of the sample examinees had sufficient essay writing skills," he said. We expect that they will have had some instruction in essay writing by the time the essay is added to the GED test.

The GED test, which was taken by more than 700,000 people last year, enables adults who did not complete a regular high school curriculum to earn a high school equivalency diploma or certificate. The test measures skills in social studies, science, reading, and mathematics, in addition to writing.

Currently, the writing skills test includes 80 multiple choice questions in spelling, capitalization and punctuation, usage, sentence structure, and logic and organizatio Those questions, however, measure writing only indirectly by focusing on usage and editing skills rather than on composition skills, accordin to the commission.

In 1988, the test will include a multiple choice test on sentence structure and usage and a 45 minute essay-writing exercise. Several states, however, have indicated a desire to begin using the writing exercise earlier to reinforce the message that effective writing is a necessary skill for high school graduates.

Examinees will have to write a composition in response to a single topic that asks them to state a position and defend it or to analyze an item. The topics will not require any specialized knowledge but will cover subjects people would know enough about to write on. One sample essay topic, for example, explains that "most people in America are very careful to keep thei houses and cars neat and clean, yet our city streets, our highways, and our parks are frequently covered with litter." The question is: "Explain why people litter. Be sure to support your views with specific reasons, details, and examples."

The essays will be scored by two different trained readers, using a six-point scale. If the two readers' scores differ by more than one point, the essay must be scored by a third reader. The essay score will be the total of the two readers' ratings and will be combined with the multiple choice scores for a composite measure of writing skills.

GED
ALUMNI
ASSOCIA

Alumni Counselor Bill Ryan presents winner with her painting

**ADULT EDUCATION
TIU CENTER**

SAME PLACE:
Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational
Technical School Library
New Phone: (717) 248-4942
offering: Adult Basic Education, General Education Development (GED) classes, Job Search counseling and workshops, GED Alumni Association

Call us! 248-4942
Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 6:30 - 9:3

**ADULT EDUCATION TIU CENTER
STAFF**

Dr. Dale Heller, Executive Director,
Tuscarora Intermediate Unit No. 11
Ken Calkin, Industry/Education Co-ord
Tuscarora Intermediate Unit No. 11
Carol Molek, Supervisor/Instructor
Becky Burns, Assistant Instructor
Bill Ryan, Counselor
Jamie Snyder, Mae Brackett, Barb Goss
Instructors
Ginger Shade, Secretary/Aide
Atha Workinger, Secretary

The GED Alumni Association is spon in part by the Tuscarora Intermediat Unit and the Pennsylvania Departme of Education.

Congratulations to RAENNA FREED, of 501 Woodland Avenue, Lewistown, winner of our GED Alumni Association fund raising raffle. At our Graduation Ceremony on January 20 Raenna had the winning ticket for the original oil painting by GED Alumna Delores Hambright. We're sure Raenna is enjoying owning this beautiful painting. And the GED Alumni Association raised $230 for our future projects. Our thanks again to Dee Hambright for providing us with the painting.

Thinking of fall.......

Our plans for next year are being put together now and we need your input. Please fill out the form at the bottom of this page and return to us as soon as possible.

______________________ ____________ is interested in participating in the
name phone
following activities for fall:

____ Writer's Workshop - teaching practical writing skills for daily life
____ Mini Job Search - teaching job search skills in an intensive course over 4 evening classes
____ Job Search Workshop - day program
____ GED classes
____ Tutoring GED students
____ Youth drop out program (for those 18-21 years old) includes GED studies, job search training, work experience
____ Program for single parents and displaced homemakers. Training for people who have never worked outside the home or who find themselves in a new position of having to support a household
____ Older workers (over 55) program to teach job seeking and other skills
____ Writer for Alumni Newsletter

Other suggestions for fall of programs or activities you would like to see at the Vo-Tech School:

____

____

Writing Workshop

A Writing Workshop on 8 Monday nights was sponsored by the Alumni Association for alumni interested in improving their writing skills. Twelve alumni participated.

The Writing Workshop was self-directed in that participants expressed their needs and desires of such an activity. Since this was a diverse group, a variety of areas were touched upon: creative, practical, business, letter writing.

All participants kept a journal of free writing. Many excellent writing selections grew from the journals and some of these writing samples appeared in the spring alumni newsletter. The fact that 3 of our writers were included in the adult student writing publication, Our Words, Our Voices, Our Worlds in '84, gave inspiration to the alumni writing group. The idea of having their work published was new and exciting to many of the participants.

At the weekly sessions, participants completed writing exercises and shared their results with others. Much of the writing done was experiential. Exercises began simply with sentences and gradually built to composition forms. This activity was very popular with alumni and will be further developed next year.

Writing Workshop
Announcements

Bulletin Board

PUBLIC SUPPER—A fish, oyster and meat loaf supper will be held Friday, Oct. 4, 4-7 p.m. at the Decatur Firemen's Park. 10-2

SR. CITIZENS FALL FESTIVAL—The Mifflin County Senior Citizens Fall Festival will be held Oct. 17 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Manor Hall, Route 522, Lewistown. Reservations must be made by Oct. 9 by calling 242-0315. The festival is being sponsored by the Mifflin-Juniata Area Agency on Aging. 10-9

YEAGERTOWN LIONS CLUB—Community flea market and yard sale will be held Oct. 5 at the Hilltop Playground in Yeagertown from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Spaces are available at $5 a space. Ph. 248-2121 or 248-4521. 10-2

20TH CENTURY CLUB— Will hold a rummage sale Monday, Oct. 7, 9-3 at the Steele Building, Chestnut Street, Lewistown. 10-2

ill hold a rummage sale
Grove Memorial United
n.
10-2

emocratic Women will
brary community room.
10-2

t/yard sale will be held
d of Doug Welch. 10-2

ablished at the Russell
elch. Doug is in critical
ustaining head injuries
be made in the name of
l Bank, P.O. Box 428.
10-30

will be held Saturday.
h. Apple butter will be
ers. Advanced orders
. Homemade soup and
n container. 10-9

Woven Masterpieces.
Display is open to the
mpany. 10-2

Valley," Monday, Oct.
, Lewistown, 7:30 p.m.
lic. Public is invited.
rs Association.
10-2

ing September 26, and
d November 7, 14, and
ster Valley. Shotguns
11-20

stomy Outreach group
stown Hospital dining
rmation call 248-2125.
10-2

Lewistown Library.
October. The program
y time begins October
gins October 15, 2 p.m.
stration is required for
he library. 10-9

screening will be given
eystone Senior Citizens
ng is free for anyone to
e center. Test consists
10-2

T—The Mifflin County
held on October 14, at
For your reservations

—An ice cream social will start at 5 please call 242-0885 or your township director. Deadline for your reservation is October 7. Entertainment for the evening will be Bill Shoop country and gospel singer. One door prize will be given away – a beautiful fall centerpiece. 10-9

ADULT WRITER'S WORKSHOP—Any adult interested in improving his or her writing skills is welcome to attend. Practical, business, and creative writing. Monday, Oct. 7 at 7 p.m. at the J-M Area Vocational Technical School. Sponsored by the GED Alumni Assoc. Phone 248-3933 for more information. 10-2

2— THE SENTINEL, Lewistown, Pa., Thursday, October 3, 1985

THE SENTINEL

Calendar

(Editor's note: Announcements of upcoming activities of non-profit organizations will be published in this calendar up to three consecutive days at no charge. The deadline is noon the day prior to publication. Write to The Sentinel, P.O. Box 588, Lewistown, PA 17044 or call 248-6741.

Meeting schedule:

- *Juniata Singles in Action* will meet at 7 p.m. Saturday at Mifflin fire hall. Bring anything for snacks. For more information call 463-2086 or 436-6708 after 4:30 p.m.
- *Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association* support group will meet at 7 p.m. Monday at former F.W. Black Hospital, Lewistown. Persons dealing with a confused person are encouraged to attend.
- Lewistown Ostomy Outreach group will meet at 2 p.m. Sunday at Lewistown Hospital dining room. For more information call 248-2125.
- American Legion will meet at 8 p.m. Friday at the legion hall. Installations of association officers.
- *Mifflin County Airforce Association* will meet at 8 p.m. today at the clubhouse on Granville Road.
- La Leche League will meet at 7 p.m. today at 10 Twig Lane, Pleasant Acres, Lewistown. Topic: The art of breastfeeding. Pregnant women and nursing mothers welcome to attend. More information: 248-5249 or 935-5256.
- *Mifflin-Juniata Counties United* Labor Council will meet at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday at Locust Campground.

Square dancing

- The Blain Fire Co. will sponsor an evening of square dancing from 8-11:30 p.m. Friday at the Blain Picnic Grounds to benefit the Perry Unit of the American Cancer Society. Caller: "The Outsiders" from Millersburg. Tickets: $3-single and $5-couple to be purchased at door or in advance by calling Cathy Colwell at 789-4130, Carol Gantt at 567-6725 or Doug Bonsell at 589-3704.
- There will be a square dance from 8:30-11:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 5 at Shavers Creek Community Building to benefit Shaver's Creek Volunteer Fire Co. Music by the Wild-Ropers.

Improve writing skills

Adults interested in improving practical, business and creative writing skills come to *Adult Writers Workshop* at 7 p.m. *Monday* at Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational Technical School. Sponsored by the GED Alumni Association. For more information, call 248-3933.

Fall festivals

- Ryde Otterbein United Methodist Church will have a festival starting at 4 p.m. Saturday at the Ryde Social Hall on Saturday. Included in the menu are soup, pizza and homemade ice cream. Entertainment at 5:15 p.m. by the One Way Quartet and Mike and Pam Grove.
- *McClure Fall Foliage Festival*

youth group will have a car wash from 1-4 p.m. Saturday at the church on the *Main Street* side. Prices: $2 for outside; $3 for inside and outside.

- Explorer Post 11 will wash cars and vacuum the interior from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday at Heide Sports, Logan Blvd., Burnham. Rain date: Oct. 12.

Missionary to speak

Carrie Bayer of Evangelistic Faith Missions, Bedford, Ind., will be the guest speaker at a missionary service to be held at 7:30 p.m. *Friday at Mount Rock Evangelical Methodist* Church, Spring Street, Lewistown.

V.F.W. meals

Lewistown VFW will begin Friday meals this Friday. The first meal will be spaghetti and meatballs, tossed salad, garlic bread, dessert, coffee or tea from 5-7 p.m. for $3. The VFW is located at 12 Chestnut St. Public invited.

Saturday's soup sales

- A soup sale will start at 9:30 a.m. Saturday by the Kaufman's Music and Furniture Store, Lewistown to benefit Bethel AME Church building fund.
- *Rhodes Memorial United Methodist* Church, Highland Avenue will have a vegetable soup sale from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday. Cost: eat in-$.75 a bowl; take out-$1.75 a quart, containers furnished. To reserve call 248-1312.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Graduations

The Adult Center holds 2 graduation ceremonies a year - in January and May. The success of these 2 ceremonies this year can be directly attributed to the Alumni Association.

Winter Graduation: 54 GED graduates were honored with over 100 in attendance. This was the largest crowd ever in our adult center and from this experience we learned we'd have to move our ceremony to a larger site. We were particularly pleased with the size of this crowd because the weather was not good. Alumni were responsible for greeting guests, distribution of materials, setting up, etc.

A fund raising raffle for the Alumni Association was held at graduation. An original oil painting by alumna, Delores Hambright, was the prize. The Association raised $226.

Our keynote speaker was alumna, Terri Blessing, who very movingly related her experience in achieving her GED.

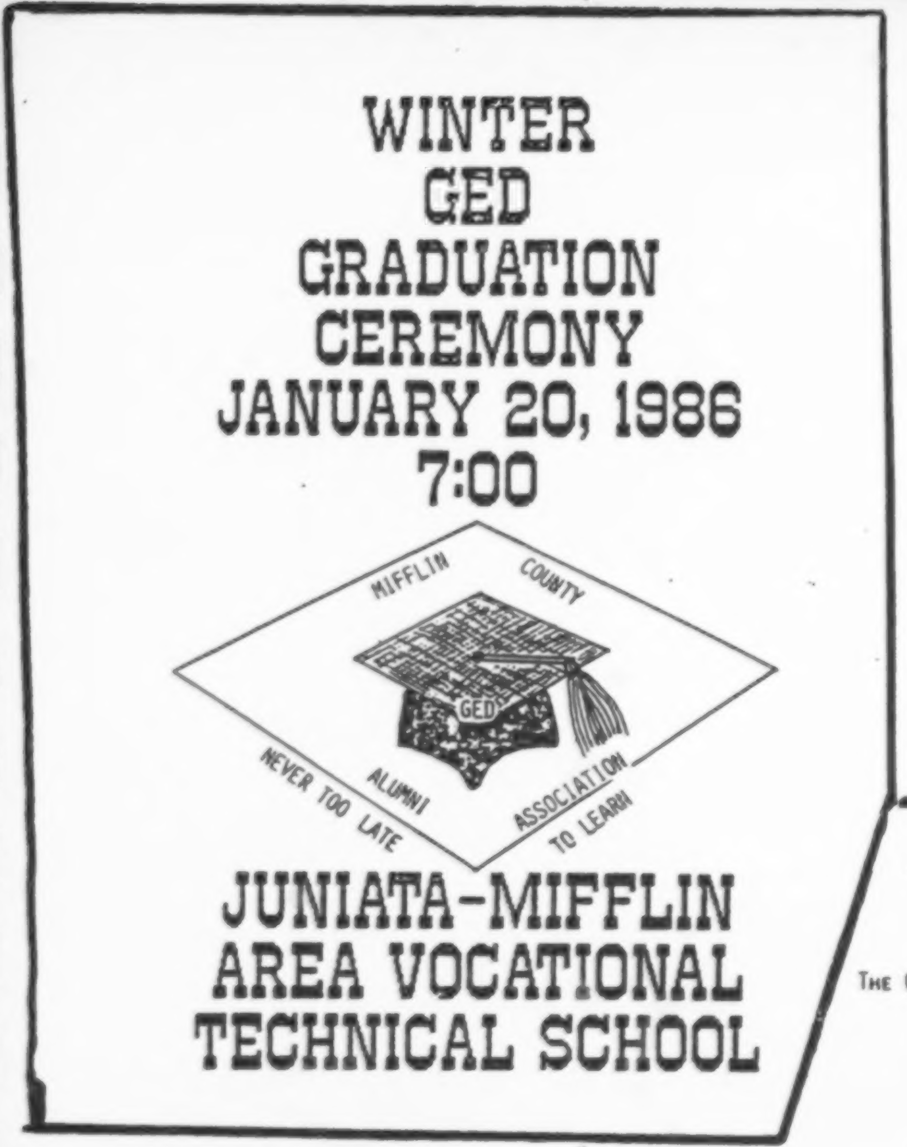
Spring Graduation: At our Spring Graduation the alumni truly took over many of the responsibilities: alumni took photos, greeted guests, arranged seating, distributed pamphlets and newsletters, served refreshments, assisted in guest book sign-up, set-up and cleaned up. With 59 graduates and over 170 in attendance the event moved from our Center to the Vo-Tech Cafeteria. The entire evening was video-taped and will serve as a guide for future ceremonies.

Along with our staff speakers, State Representatives Ruth Rudy and Walter DeVerter addressed the group. Atha Workinger, GED alumna and Center secretary also spoke. Again we found that the most impressive speakers are those who have gone through the GED experience themselves. We were especially pleased to have County Commissioner, Bill Finkenbiner, describing his experience as a GED graduate.

Another fund raising raffle was conducted at the Spring Graduation. Items were homemade crafts donated by alumni. The group added $147 to its funds for next year.

Our Spring Graduation marked the presentation of our first local Adult Student of the Year Award. Margaret Williams' name has been engraved on a plaque which is on display in our Center.

Again the success of our graduation and the excellent publicity our programs received from the events were greatly attributed to our active alumni members.



WINTER
GED
GRADUATION
CEREMONY
JANUARY 20, 1986
7:00

MIFFLIN COUNTY
GED
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
NEVER TOO LATE TO LEARN

JUNIATA-MIFFLIN
AREA VOCATIONAL
TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Winter Graduation Program
and audience.

THE GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
PRESENTS OUR
WINTER
GED
GRADUATION
CEREMONY
JANUARY 20, 1986
7:00 P.M.
JUNIATA-MIFFLIN AREA VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL LIBRARY

PROGRAM

Speakers:

Carol Molek - Supervisor/Instructor
Terri Blessing - GED Alumna
Jamie Snyder - JTPA Representative
Dr. Dale Heller - Executive Director, Tuscarora Intermediate Unit

Presentation of Certificates of Completion
Carol Molek and Becky Burns

Special Awards

Refreshments

SPONSORED BY THE TUSCARORA INTERMEDIATE UNIT NO. 11 AND THE
JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT

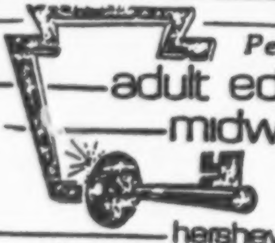
BEST COPY AVAILABLE

congratulations

Our very BEST WISHES to our latest graduates and new GED Alumni. Our programs have now graduated 117 participants and we're looking forward to a busy spring!

Dale Spickler
Howard Osborne
Paul Kirchoff
Terri Blessing
Denise Brittain
Joan Caruso
Patsy Cavanaugh
Barbara Myers
Sharon Youtzy
Denise Gilkey
Melanie Druckenmiller
Sue Packard
Elaine Berger
Glenda Smith
Pat Bloom
Charlotte Sambonetti
Marsha Staley
Dolly Davis
Mary Specht

Karen Rhodes
Delores Hambright
Rhonda Parks
Ann Wilson
Sherrie Weaver
Annis DeArment
Carol Falk
Joan Secrest
Fran Rupp
Billie Yocum
Sally Winn
Yvonne Ross
Darlene McCardle
Lula Lewis
Patty Dunlap
Kate Banner
Nancy Druckenmiller



Pennsylvania's 21st Annual

adult education

midwinter conference

february 5-7, 1986

hershey convention center hershey, pa

We are happy to announce the first Annual GED Alumni Organization Statewide Meeting.

Here's your opportunity to meet with other GED Alumni throughout Pennsylvania. Share experiences; get new ideas; become part of Adult Basic Education in Pennsylvania.

Date: Thursday, February 6, 1986
Time: 4:00 - 5:15 p.m.
Place: The Hershey Convention Center and Motor Lodge, Hershey, PA

This meeting is in conjunction with the Annual Adult Education Mid-Winter Conference

vlvania's GED Alumni Organization will pay mileage (20¢ per mile) for 1 vehicle from our group.

Make sure to sign up tonight so we can plan our transportation!

* * *

Winter Graduation
Program continued

NOW WHAT?

Achieving your GED diploma is a real accomplishment. For many of you, the next step is to find a job that's right for you. Let us help! Our JTPA Job Search Program runs for 4 weeks on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. During our workshops we [illegible]:

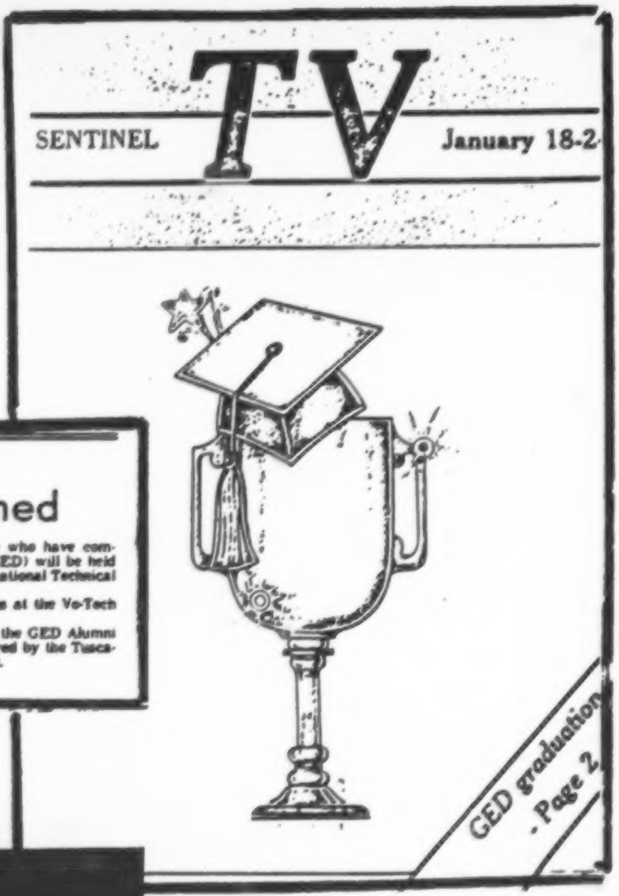
- -Employer Expectations
- -Applications
- -Interviews
- -Phone Contacts
- -Resumes
- -Job Search Planning and more.

The groups are designed to be informative and supportive. Learn the skills you need to get the job you want. Join Job Search now! (Next workshop series begins January 28, 1986)

STUDENTS HELPING STUDENTS

1. Can you be warm and friendly?
2. Can you encourage students to think?
3. Can you admit when you don't know an answer?
4. Can you encourage students?
5. Can you accept a student just as he or she is?
6. Can you let students "talk out" problems?
7. Can you honor confidentiality?
8. Can you keep your commitment?
9. Can you maintain a sense of humor?
10. Can you support and respect the existing classroom structure?

If you answered "yes" to all of the above questions, then perhaps you would like to TUTOR an adult learner! Through the GED Alumni Association we are looking for people who are willing to work one-on-one to help a student to get his GED diploma. If the idea of helping someone appeals to you, VOLUNTEER!



SENTINEL TV January 18-2

GED graduation

Page 2

On the cover

Graduation planned

LEWISTOWN — Winter graduation for those who have completed the General Educational Development (GED) will be held at 7 p.m. Monday at the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational Technical School.

Fifty people completed adult education courses at the Vo-Tech this year.

The graduation program will be presented by the GED Alumni Association. Adult education courses are sponsored by the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit and the Job Training Office.

Graduation exercises are open to the public.

Winter Graduation
Speakers:
Dr. Dale Heller, Executive
Director, Tuscarora
Intermediate Unit;
Jamie Snyder, GED Instructor;
Carol Molek, Supervisor/
Instructor

Terri Blessing, GED Alumna, addresses Winter Graduation crowd

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4— THE SENTINEL, Lewistown, Pa., Saturday, January 25, 1986

THE SENTINEL

Our opinion

Darts and laurels

Laurel — To all those responsible for moving along the Juniata County Library project.

Construction on the facility is set to begin in April. The new library will represent a nice addition to services offered Juniata County residents.

Laurel — To J. Richard Speer of the Blairs Mill area who has earned the status of Star Farmer.

The award honors the Huntingdon County resident for a job well done.

Laurel — To the area residents who came home with many ribbons and awards from last week's Pennsylvania Farm Show.

Dart — To persons who commit acts of vandalism in the Lewistown area.

Vandalism in the borough increased last year by 76 percent. Some experts say vandalism represents mindless anger against society.

How sad it is that some individuals seem able only to express their anger through destruction.

Laurel — To all the talented art students whose artwork recently won in a regional competition and now heads to Harrisburg for judging against about 1,000 entries from throughout the state with hopes of winning a spot in a display later at the State Museum of Pennsylvania.

Laurel — To the 55 area residents who were honored this week in a special ceremony as they received their General Education Development (GED) diplomas.

They should be proud of themselves and we should be proud of them. It speaks well of a person who takes the time to go after a GED.

As one of the graduates, Terry Blessing, told the others: "You never really know how important a diploma is until you've been without one and have had to go back after being out of school for several years to get one. My diploma has changed my life in several ways. I'm more self-confident in my abilities and I feel good about my goals."

Dart — To Chicago Bears quarterback Jim McMahon for taking the concept of making the Super Bowl fun a little too fun

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Graduation Address: Terry Blessing January 20, 1986

As I was thinking about preparing this speech I wondered what I could possibly say that those of you that have gone through the G.E.D. program haven't already heard and said. You've all been there and know the felling of accomplishment you get by getting your diploma.

I'm only sorry it took me so long to do it. I quit school at the end of my junior year. It took me eleven years to get up the nerve to even consider going for my diploma. I kept telling myself I didn't really need it and I would go for it when I was ready.

Finally when the Arrow Co. closed down I decided I did need it and I'd better get ready. I enrolled in the G.E.D. classes in September of 1985. Once I started the classes I began to enjoy the challenge of education. I found a group of people reaching for the same goal as me, who became very dear and close friends. We encouraged each other. We taught each other and together we made it through.

You never really know how important a diploma is until you've been without one and have had to go back after being out of school for several years to get one.

My diploma has changed my life in several ways. I'm more self-confident in my abilities and I feel good about my goals. I am presently enrolled in South Hills Business School. I am working on a career in the business field. When I finish this I hope to return as a tutor to the G.E .D. program. I also want to work with the adult Literacy Program in teaching adults to read.

I feel the G.E.D. staff is to be highly commended for their time and effort they put into helping others reach their goals. And I want to give a special thanks to my husband Steve for all his loving encouragement and support. My whole family has made a lot of sacrifices for me to reach my goals, and I give them all a big and loving Thank You.

January 9, 1986

TV Public Service Announcement -

All GED Alumni and supporters of Adult Education are invited:

WINTER
GED
GRADUATION
CEREMONY
Monday, January 20 - 7 p.m.
Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School
Call 248-3933 for more information.

January 9, 1986

Public Service Announcement -

All GED Alumni and supporters of Adult Education are invited to attend the Winter GED Graduation Ceremony at the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School on Monday, January 20, at 7 p.m.

SUPPORT ADULT EDUCATION

TAKE A CHANCE!
WIN AN ORIGINAL
OIL PAINTING
BY ARTIST
DELORES HAMBRIGHT

CHANCES $1.00
ON SALE HERE

BENEFITS GED
ALUMNI ASSOC.

Bill Ryan, Alumni Association Counselor, presents prize to winner, Raenna Freed, at graduation ceremony

GED
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION
"Painting"
Donation: $1.00 Drawing: January 20, 1986

Name ______________________
Address ______________________
____
Phone No. ______________________

Press coverage of Winter Graduation

PICTURED ABOVE—is the GED class which graduated last week. (Seated l-r) Dolly Davis, Mary Yocum, Darlene McCardle, Yvonne Ross, Lisa McCullough, Jo Weis (Second l-r) Marie Tate, Lois Lewis, Pat Bloom, Marsha Staley, Margaret Williams, Sandy Weyman, Joan Secrest, Charlotte Sambonetto, Howard Osborne, Denise Brittain, (Back row) Annie Dearment, Nancy Druckenmiller, Kate Bonner, Cheryl McCardle, Carolyn Bender, [illegible] Barbara Myers, Lyle Davis, Patsy Cavanaugh [illegible] Rhonda Parks, Patty Dunlap, Glenda Smith.

38 Are Graduated From GED Winter Program

The GED Alumni Association presented a Winter GED Graduation Ceremony on Monday, January 20, at the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School Library. The event, sponsored by the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit and the Job Training Office, was to honor the graduates of the programs who have achieved their GED diplomas so far this school year.

Monday's graduation ceremony was a memorial evening. As well as receiving their Certificates of Completion, graduates and their friends and relatives heard from three speakers. Dr. Dale Heller, executive director of the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit, addressed the group as did Jamie Snyder, program co-ordinator of JTPA. Carol Molek, supervisor of the programs, spoke on the role of the GED Alumni Association. Terri Blessing, a graduate and active member of the GED Alumni Association spoke about her involvement in the programs and the changes she has found in her life since deciding to achieve her GED.

Refreshments and a social hour followed the programs and was enjoyed by all the graduates and their guests. Graduation exercises for spring graduates will take place in June. The winter graduates are: Dale Spickler, Howard Osborne, Paul Kirchoff, Terri Blessing, Denise Brittain, Joan Carson, Patsy Cavanaugh, Barbara Myers, Sharon Yeatty, Denise Gilbey, Melanie Druckenmiller, Sue Packard, Elaine Barger, Glenda Smith, Pat Bloom, Charlotte Sambonetti, Marsha Staley, Dolly Davis, Mary Specht, Karen Rhodes, Delores Hambright, Rhonda Parks, Ann Wilson, Sherrie Weaver, Annie DeArment, Carol Folk, Joan Secrest, Fran Rupp, Billie Yocum, Sally Winn, Yvonne Ross, Darlene McCardle, Lois Lewis, Patty Dunlap, Kate Bonner, Nancy Druckenmiller, Julie Graybill, Elva Graybill.

The graduates have all completed a General Education Development program of classes at the Vo-Tech School. The programs prepare students in the areas of writing, social studies, science, reading and math skills. Although most students who enter the adult basic education programs have the goal of a GED diploma in mind, some students come to the program with high school diplomas in order to brush up their skills for other training programs or schooling. The Tuscarora Intermediate Unit and the JTPA have several adult basic education programs running simultaneously at the Vo-Tech School and any adult is eligible for training.

Students can enter GED preparation classes once a month. Participants leave the program whenever they are ready to test or have met their personal goals.

For more information about adult basic education at the Vo-Tech School call 248-3933 anytime.

Invitation for the event

THE GED ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION
INVITES YOU TO OUR
WINTER
GED
GRADUATION
CEREMONY
MON, JAN 20 -7PM
J.M.A.V.T.S.
SPONSORED BY
TUSCARORA
INTERMEDIATE UNIT
& JOB TRAINING
OFFICE-JTPA

Sentinel photo by DICK [illegible]

CAROL MOLEK PRESENTS PATSY CAVANAUGH (at right) WITH HER GED DIPLOMA.

38 GED graduates

LEWISTOWN — The GED Alumni Association presented a winter GED commencement ceremony Monday at the Juniata-Mifflin Counties Area Vocational-Technical School.

Sponsored by the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit and the Job Training Office, the graduation was to honor the graduates of the programs who have achieved their GED diplomas so far this school year.

In addition to receiving their certificates of completion, graduates and their friends and relatives listened to several speakers — Dr. Dale Heller, Tuscarora Intermediate Unit executive director; Jamie Snyder, JTPA program coordinator of JTPA; Carol Molek, supervisor of the programs, spoke on the role of the GED Alumni Association; and Terri Blessing, a graduate and GED Alumni Association active member, spoke about her involvement in the programs and the changes she has found in her life since deciding to achieve her GED.

Graduation exercises for spring graduates will take place in June. Winter graduates are: Dale Spickler, Howard Osborne, Paul Kirchoff, Terri Blessing (honor), Denise Brittain, Joan Caruso, Patsy-Cavanaugh, Barbara Myers, Sharon Youtzy, Denise Gilkey, Melanie Druckenmiller, Sue Packard, Elaine Barger, Glenda Smith, Pat Bloom, Charlotte Sambenetti, Marsha Staley, Dolly Davis, Mary Specht, Karen Rhodes (honor), Delores Hambright, Rhonda Parks (honor), Ann Wilson, Sherrie Weaver (honor), Annis DeArment (honor), Carol Folk, Joan Secrest (honor), Fran Rupp (honor), Billie Yocum, Sally Winn (honor), Yvonne Ross, Darlene McCardle, Lula Lewis, Patty Dunlap, Kate Benner, Nancy Druckenmiller, Julia Graybill (honor), Elva Graybill (honor).

The graduates all completed a General Education Development program of classes at the vo-tech school. The programs prepare students in the area of writing, social studies, science, reading and math skills. Although most students who enter the adult basic education programs have the goal of a GED diploma in mind, some students come to the program with high school diplomas in order to brush up their skills for other training programs or schooling. The Tuscarora Intermediate Unit and the JTPA have several adult basic education programs running simultaneously at the vo-tech school and any adult is eligible for training.

Students can enter GED preparation classes once a month. Participants leave the program whenever they are ready to test or have met their personal goals.

For more information about adult basic education, call 248-3933.

Setting it straight

A list of GED graduates that appeared on the Accent page Thursday was incomplete. Out of 55 people who were honored at a special graduation ceremony on Monday, 19 were left off the list.

Those students include: Sandra Weyman, Cheryl McCartle, Wesley McNemar, Anita Wise, Sandra Pannebaker, Lisa McCullough, Elizabeth Bender, Lyle Davis, Margaret Williams, David Zimmerman, Lanette Taylor, Mary Yocum, Carolyn Bender, Gary Bender, Marie Tate, Carol Harpster (honor student), and Jo Ann Davis.

Also, the picture accompanying the list incorrectly identified the student. Carol Molek was shown in the photograph presenting Dolly Davis with her diploma.

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tails from 8-9 p.m.; dancing 9 p.m.-1 a.m.; cos er; tick-ets: $1 per couple, at the M by "Cheers." Call 242-2465 or -7217 for more information.

Winter GED graduation

All GED alumni and supporters of adult education are invited to attend the Winter GED Graduation ceremony at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 20 in the Mifflin-Juniata Area Vocational-Technical School Library. Call 248-3933 for more information.

Colon cancer screening

Lewistown Hospital will conduct a colon cancer screening from 11 noon and from 3-4 p.m. Wedn lobby. For more information call 248-5411, ext. 2125.

Winter GED graduation is on Monday

LEWISTOWN — The winter GED graduation ceremony is at 7 p.m. Monday in the Juniata-Mifflin Counties Area Vocational-Technical School library.

Forty students will receive certificates of completion. The program will feature speakers, including Terri Blessing, a graduate and active member of the GED Alumni Association.

Sentinel 1/16/86

News articles - Winter Graduation

GED GRADUATES—These people are a few of the 54 graduates of the fall GED classes. Shown in the rear, l-r, are Kate Benner, Nancy Druckenmiller, Yvonne Ross, Gary Bender, and Lyle Davis. In front, l-r, are Darlene McCardle, Margaret Williams, Carolyn Bender, and JoAnn Davis.

News article about participants in our program was written as a follow-up of Winter Graduation

Wednesday, January 29, 1986—THE COUNTY OBSERVER

GED Program Offers A Second Chance For Adults

By Pam Zook

"Never Too Late News" is the newsletter published by the GED Alumni Association. That group represents the people who, for one reason or another, dropped out of high school before receiving a diploma, but decided to take the General Education Development test at a later time. Recently 54 students, their families, and friends gathered at the Mifflin-Juniata Area Vocational-Technical School for graduation ceremonies which marked the students' successful completion of the GED program.

Margaret Williams of Lewistown decided to go back to school when she realized she was passed over for a promotion because of her lack of a high school diploma.

"I've been out of school 31 years," Williams said. "I think if I can do it, anyone can. It just takes determination. That's how I got my job—perseverance."

Williams is an older student, but Carol Moick, supervisor and instructor for the program, pointed out, "We get a lot of 18 year old." For those who have been away from the classroom setting for a longer time, the GED program is sometimes a last chance to fulfill the dream of a high school diploma. These older students take special pride in achieving their goal.

"Now I can hold my head up. I'm not a dropout anymore," said one student.

Gary Bender, who joined the GED program with his wife Carolyn, explained his reasons for wanting a diploma. "I want all my kids to graduate and they always said 'you didn't graduate'." His wife added, "It was a challenge. It gave me self-worth to know I could do it."

The Benders attended classes for over 75 hours according to Moick. They worked together as well as independently. "That's the most reading I did in 23 years," Gary said with a grin. "It's great to have a system where you can do something like this."

The Benders, residents of Lewistown R.D., were not the only couple involved in the fall program. JoAnn and Lyle Davis of Lewistown also participated. Both were longtime employees of the Arrow Company and, because of that plant's closing, had to look for new employment.

"When you are younger," Mrs. Davis said, "you don't realize (the importance of education) and wish you had done better."

"I'm hoping this will help me get a job," said her husband who quit school at age 16 when his father died.

Mrs. Davis had previously attained her GED diploma in 1969, but entered classes to prepare for the licensed practical nurse entrance exam and to keep her husband company. She is currently employed at Valley View Haven in Belleville and will begin her nursing studies at the Vo-Tech this spring.

"My biggest problem was getting nerve enough to get started," Mr. Davis admitted ruefully. Nevertheless, he successfully completed the program.

Sister teams also participated in the fall GED classes. Kate Benner and Nancy Druckenmiller, both of McClure, supported each other emotionally. "It seems we weren't both in that mood (to quit) at the same time." Both women successfully completed the program. Druckenmiller is an employee of Scotty's and Benner was formerly employed at the Arrow Company. She attended the evening GED classes as well as the daytime Job Search group, got a job, and also entered a typing class.

Another sister team, Darlene McCardle and Yvonne Ross, passed their GED exams before the Christmas holidays making Christmas 1985 especially wonderful. McCardle of Lewistown and Ross of Belleville talked about their reasons for returning to school.

"I felt I cheated my parents and I wanted them to be proud of me for coming back," McCardle said. "I wanted to show my kids I could come back. And, I did it for myself."

Her sister added, "It's something I've always wanted to do." The GED program spurred her interest in education and she plans to enroll in art classes soon. "I'd like to have my own business."

All the students had high praise for their teachers. "We owe our teachers a lot," said Mrs. Davis.

"They go out of their way to help you," said Williams. "They're marvelous."

Moick gives the credit for their success to the older students. She pointed out that virtually no one in the over 40 age group drops out and that all "show a real enthusiasm for learning." Although initial anxiety about returning to school is very real, once the student works through his fears he or she enjoys the challenge.

The GED classes are small and informal. Students support each other emotionally and academically. Four Adult Basic Education and GED programs are operating at the Vo-Tech school this year. Moick emphasized that any adult wanting to improve his or her education is eligible under one of the programs.

New classes begin each month with entry and exit open. Those students who have already received their high school diploma or GED may enter to prepare themselves for another training program or for personal enrichment. Interested persons may phone the Vo-Tech school at 717-248-3933 for more information.

Margaret Williams is hoping to get a new position at her place of employment. JoAnn Davis is looking forward to realizing her lifelong dream of becoming a nurse; her husband hopes to find employment. The Benders now can point to their own diplomas when their children express a reluctance to finish high school. The sister teams of Benner and Druckenmiller and McCardle and Ross are looking to forge new skills in adult education classes. And, Carol Moick is anticipating another class of dedicated students who truly have the desire to learn.

[illegible]

Playoffs

The New England Patriots go marching on into Super Bowl XX Sunday, Jan. 26 wh[illegible] to fight off the stingy Chicago Bears. For playoff stories see Page 10.

F.Y.I.

All GED alumni and supporters of adult education are invited to attend the Winter GED Graduation ceremony at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 20 in the Mifflin-Juniata Area Vocational-Technical School Library. Call 248-3933 for more information.

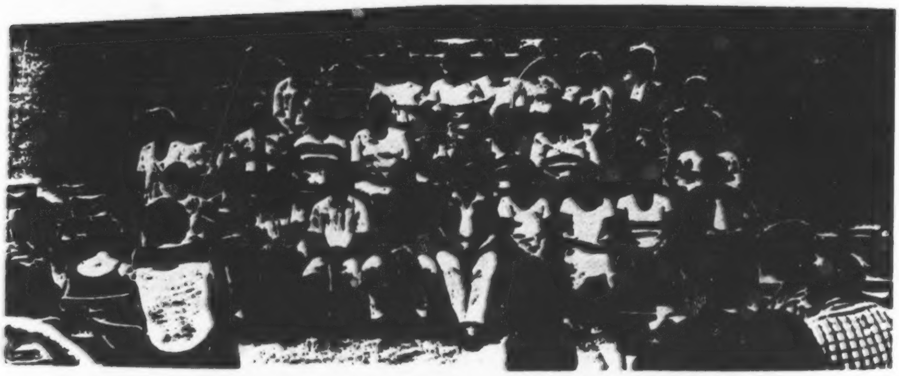
Forecast

Tonight and Tuesday, partly cloudy and cold. Low tonight in the lower teens. Winds becoming southwest 5 to 10 mph. High Tuesday around 20. See Page 5 for more weather details.

Sentinel (front page)
1/13/86

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

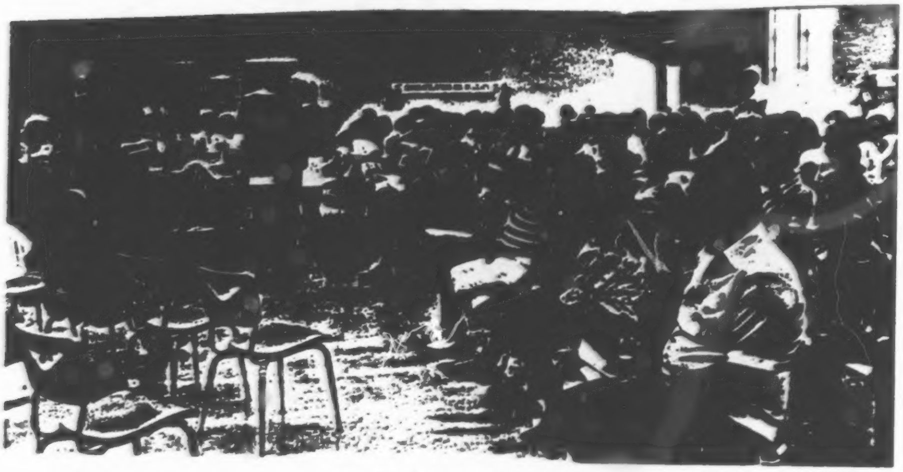
Spring Graduates



SPRING
GED
GRADUATION

THURSDAY
MAY 29, 1986
AT
7:00 P.M.

AT THE
JUNIATA-MIFFLIN
AREA VO-TECH
SCHOOL
IN THE CAFETERIA



A Packed House

Spring Graduation

Invitation and Checklist

The Adult Education T.I.U. Center's

GED GRADUATION CEREMONY

Come join us in honoring our spring graduates

CELEBRATION

DATE: Thursday, May 29, 1986

TIME: 7 p.m.

PLACE: Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School Cafeteria

SPONSORED by the Tuscaora Intermediate Unit No. 11, the Mifflin County Job Training Office, and the GED Alumni Association

May 29, 1986 Graduation Checklist

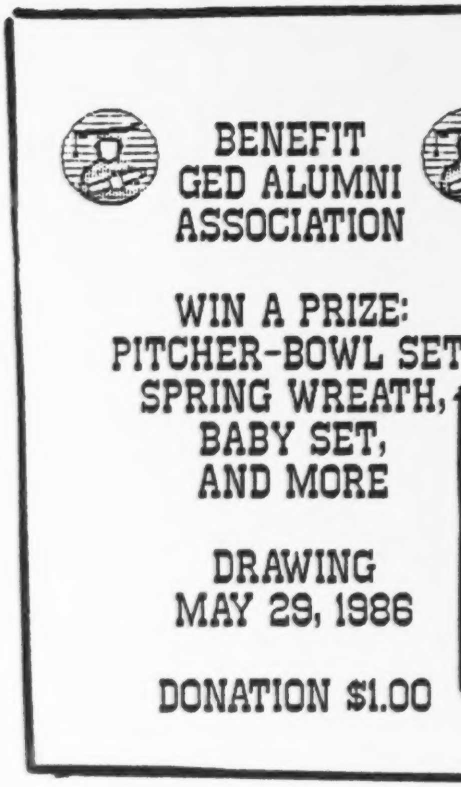
1) Invitations out by 5/9
2) Program - cover - honor students
   copy alumni officers
   duplicate staff
   grads
3) Decorations
4) Refreshments
   cakes ordered
   punch (and bowl)
   coffee (and maker)
5) music
6) set up
7) letter to papers
8) press release for papers - school news, bulletin
9) radio announcement
10) TV
11) Special Awards/Student of Year
12) podium
13) call grads for # of guests by 5/20
14) call grads to remind - 5/27 and 5/28
15) photography
16) centerpiece (Gloria)
17) certificates - completed
    laminated
    ribboned
18) signs for doors
19) Graduation Night:
    Distribute alumni pamphlet
    Distribute Newsletter
    Distribute Program
20) Introduce new alumni officers
21) Video
22) Hand out certificates
23) Guest Book
24) box for drawing (Ginger)
25) Speakers
26) set up
27) Close up
    staff evaluations
    thank you letters
    collection of papers
    checklist and notes for next yea
28) Tickets for raffle
29) Signs
30) Give out for early selling

GRADUATES
ALUMNI
STAFF
FRIENDS
RELATIVES
SUPPORTERS

Your Invitation......

Spring Graduation

Publicity sign and raffle ticket for fund raising event

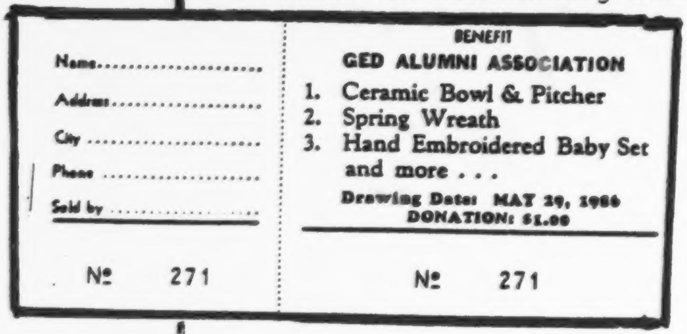


BENEFIT
GED ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

WIN A PRIZE:
PITCHER-BOWL SET,
SPRING WREATH,
BABY SET,
AND MORE

DRAWING
MAY 29, 1986

DONATION $1.00



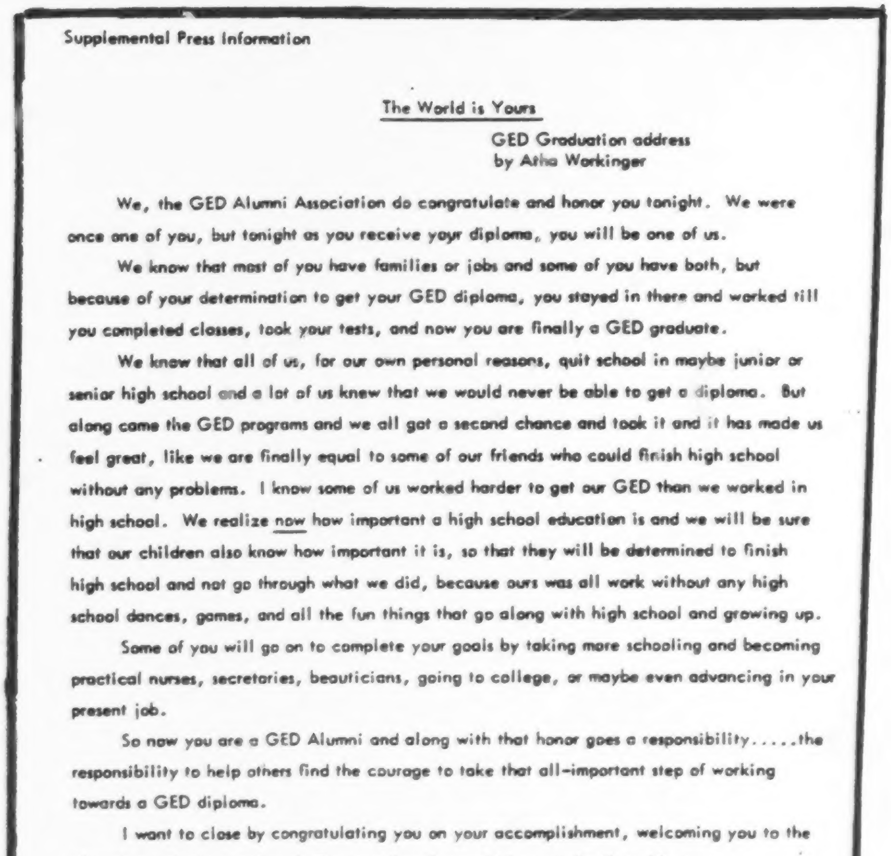
Name......................
Address...................
City......................
Phone.....................
Sold by...................

№ 271

BENEFIT
GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
1. Ceramic Bowl & Pitcher
2. Spring Wreath
3. Hand Embroidered Baby Set and more . . .

Drawing Date: MAY 29, 1986
DONATION: $1.00

№ 271



Supplemental Press Information

The World is Yours

GED Graduation address
by Atha Workinger

We, the GED Alumni Association do congratulate and honor you tonight. We were once one of you, but tonight as you receive yoyr diploma, you will be one of us.

We know that most of you have families or jobs and some of you have both, but because of your determination to get your GED diploma, you stayed in there and worked till you completed classes, took your tests, and now you are finally a GED graduate.

We know that all of us, for our own personal reasons, quit school in maybe junior or senior high school and a lot of us knew that we would never be able to get a diploma. But along came the GED programs and we all got a second chance and took it and it has made us feel great, like we are finally equal to some of our friends who could finish high school without any problems. I know some of us worked harder to get our GED than we worked in high school. We realize now how important a high school education is and we will be sure that our children also know how important it is, so that they will be determined to finish high school and not go through what we did, because ours was all work without any high school dances, games, and all the fun things that go along with high school and growing up.

Some of you will go on to complete your goals by taking more schooling and becoming practical nurses, secretaries, beauticians, going to college, or maybe even advancing in your present job.

So now you are a GED Alumni and along with that honor goes a responsibility.....the responsibility to help others find the courage to take that all-important step of working towards a GED diploma.

I want to close by congratulating you on your accomplishment, welcoming you to the alumni association, and reminding you that the world is yours for the taking.

Address:
Atha Workinger,
Alumni Association
Secretary

Spring Graduation Program

SUCCESS

our hats off to you!

Tuscarora Intermediate Unit
Adult Education Center

GED
GRADUATION
CEREMONY

MAY 29, 1986

7 P.M.

Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School

Lewistown, PA

GED
GRADUATION
CEREMONY

MAY 29, 1986

7 P.M.

Program

Speakers:

Carol Molek, Supervisor/Instructor

Atha Workinger, Alumna

Dr. Dale Heller, Executive Director,
Tuscarora Intermediate Unit

Presentations:

Ken Calkin, Industry/Education Coordinator

"Student of the Year Award"

Carol Molek

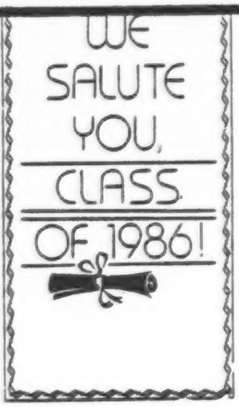
"Certificates of Completion"

Refreshments

DREAMS

Hold fast to dreams
For if dreams die
Life is a broken -
winged bird
That cannot fly.

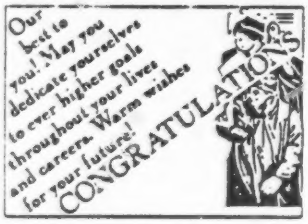
Langston Hughes



Leuraine Hesser
Earl Pecht
Walter Bell
Marie Grose
Mary McConahy
Betty Searer Jones
Mary Ann Laub
Carlos Reyes
Scott Wolfgang
Diane Parson
Darwin Collins
Sandra Eversole
Steve Kephart
Bob Baker
Janice Miller
Phyllis Snook
Anna Allison
Deb Kurtz
Sandy Goss

Karen Hoar
Henry Ritter
Andrew J. Miller
Janie Snyder
Ed Feltman
Mid Kohler
Diane Decker
Marvin Truscott
Mary Bilger
Travis Woods
Gary Snook
Kay Auman
Dixie Forshey
Holly Knarr
Wendy Haines
Deb Sausser
Guy Bilger
Connie Clinger
Louetta Walker

Carolyn Shoop
Frank Morgan
Betty Spagnoletti
Linda Decker
Steve Byler
Teree Weader
Robin Heidler
Connie Bishop
Fred Price
Carol Thomas
Evelyn Dobson
Tina Knepper
Margaret Betlyon
Carolyn White
Eugene Gerber
Linda Yeater
Katherine Goss
Judy Bishop
Brenda DeArment



Our best to you! May you dedicate yourselves to ever higher goals throughout your lives and careers. Warm wishes for your future!

CONGRATULATIONS

ABE/GED Staff and Supporters

Dr. Dale Heller, Executive Director,
Tuscarora Intermediate Unit
Ken Calkin, Industry/Education Coordinator

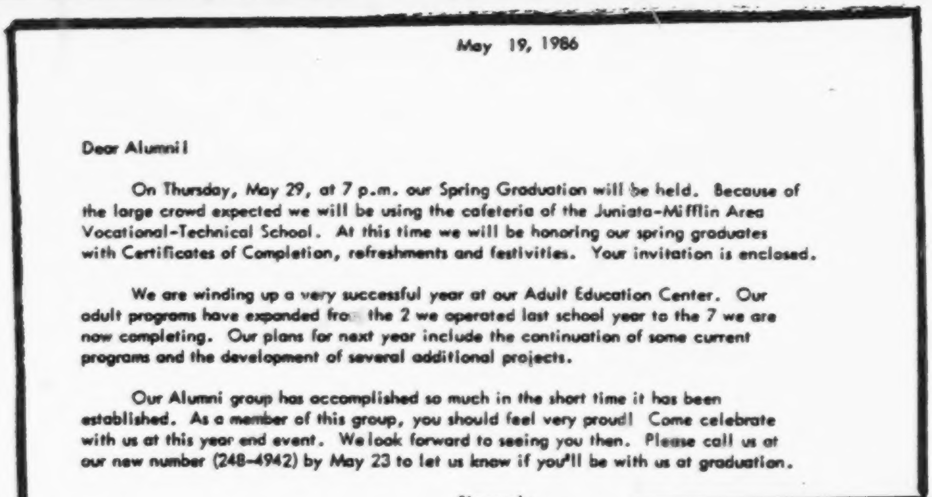
Adele Craig, JTPA Director
Mifflin County JTPA Office
Jamie Snyder, JTPA Program Developer and GED Instructor

Carol Molek, Supervisor/Instructor
Bill Ryan, Guidance Counselor
Ginger Shade, Secretary
Melissa Andrews, Secretary for I.E. Coordinator
Atha Workinger, Secretary
Becky Burns, Assistant Instructor
Barb Goss, Instructor
Mae Brockett, Instructor

* * *

GED Alumni Association Officers

Terri Blessing, President
Cathy Forsythe, Patsy Cavanaugh, Vice Presidents
Annis DeArment, Treasurer
Atha Workinger, Secretary



May 19, 1986

Dear Alumni!

On Thursday, May 29, at 7 p.m. our Spring Graduation will be held. Because of the large crowd expected we will be using the cafeteria of the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School. At this time we will be honoring our spring graduates with Certificates of Completion, refreshments and festivities. Your invitation is enclosed.

We are winding up a very successful year at our Adult Education Center. Our adult programs have expanded from the 2 we operated last school year to the 7 we are now completing. Our plans for next year include the continuation of some current programs and the development of several additional projects.

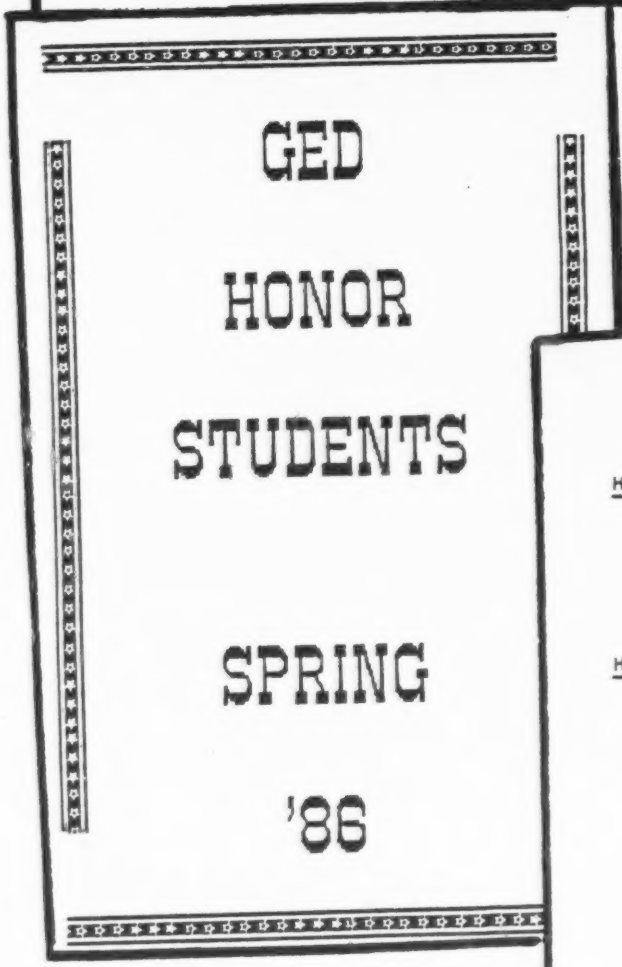
Our Alumni group has accomplished so much in the short time it has been established. As a member of this group, you should feel very proud! Come celebrate with us at this year end event. We look forward to seeing you then. Please call us at our new number (248-4942) by May 23 to let us know if you'll be with us at graduation.

Sincerely,

Carol Molek

Carol Molek

Spring Graduation
Letter to Alumni



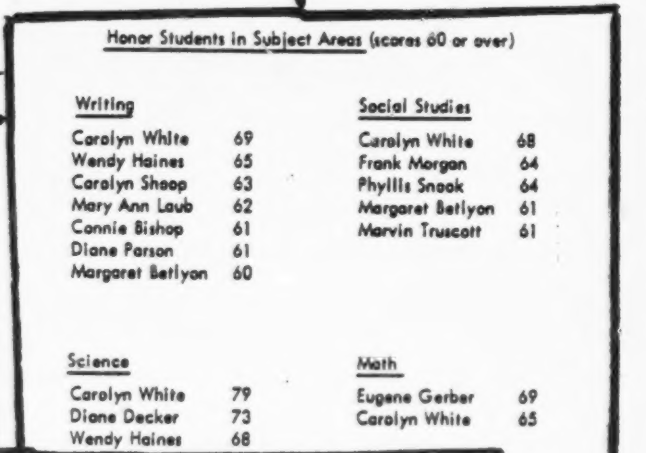
GED

HONOR

STUDENTS

SPRING

'86



Honor Students in Subject Areas (scores 60 or over)

Writing

Carolyn White	69
Wendy Haines	65
Carolyn Shoop	63
Mary Ann Laub	62
Connie Bishop	61
Diane Parson	61
Margaret Betlyon	60

Social Studies

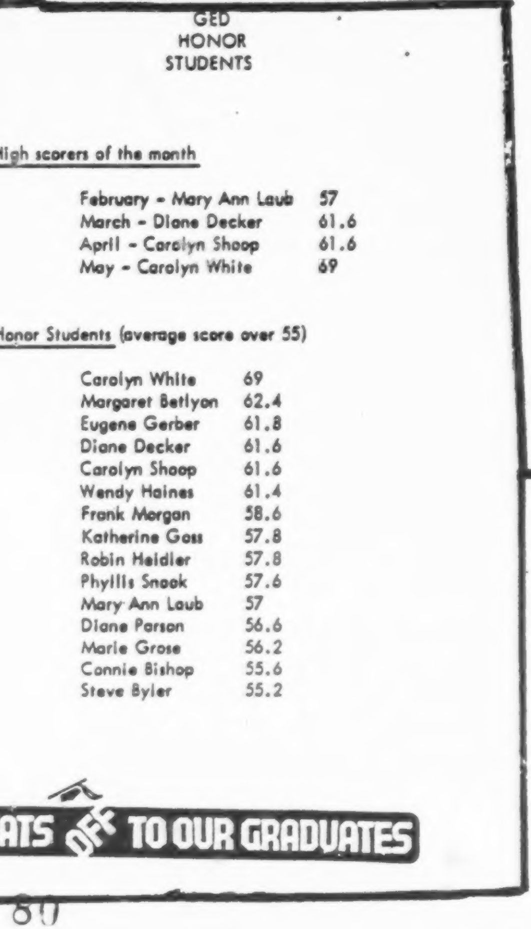
Carolyn White	68
Frank Morgan	64
Phyllis Snook	64
Margaret Betlyon	61
Marvin Truscott	61

Science

Carolyn White	79
Diane Decker	73
Wendy Haines	68

Math

Eugene Gerber	69
Carolyn White	65



GED
HONOR
STUDENTS

High scorers of the month

February - Mary Ann Laub	57
March - Diane Decker	61.6
April - Carolyn Shoop	61.6
May - Carolyn White	69

Honor Students (average score over 55)

Carolyn White	69
Margaret Betlyon	62.4
Eugene Gerber	61.8
Diane Decker	61.6
Carolyn Shoop	61.6
Wendy Haines	61.4
Frank Morgan	58.6
Katherine Goss	57.8
Robin Heidler	57.8
Phyllis Snook	57.6
Mary Ann Laub	57
Diane Parson	56.6
Marie Grose	56.2
Connie Bishop	55.6
Steve Byler	55.2

HATS OFF TO OUR GRADUATES

Honor Student pamphlet
distributed at Graduation

Spring
Graduation

GRADUATION DAY—Last Thursday was graduation day for 59 people enrolled in the General Education Program for Mifflin and Juniata Counties. Pictured above are those who made it to the ceremonies held at the Juniata-Mifflin Counties Vo-Tech School. They are (first row, l to r), Marie Grose, Gay Bilger, Mary Bilger, Travis Woods, Jay Miller, Kathy Goss, Judy Bishop, Tina Koepper, Connie Bishop, and Mary McConahy. Second row (l to r), Carol Thomas, Anna Allison, Walter Bell, Mary Ann Laub, Diane Decker, Marvin Truscott, Holly Knarr, Evelyn Dobson, Steve Byler and Sandy Eversole. Third row (l to r), Carolyn White, Brenda DeArment, Earl Pecht, Gene Gerber, Bob Baker, Sandy Goss, Karen Hoar, Gary Snook, Phyllis Snook, Teree Weader, Betty Spagnoletti and Margaret Betlyon. (photo by Joe Cannon)

Press coverage
and welcome signs

WELCOME!

GED

GRADUATION

'86

DOWN THIS HALL

TO CAFETERIA

WELCOME!

GED

GRADUATION

'86

PLEASE SIGN

YOUR GUEST BOOK

Thursday, May 29 at the library.

• The American Legion Auxiliary will meet Tuesday, June 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the post home, Valley Street. Nomination of officers.

Graduation Thursday

All GED Alumni and supporters of adult education are invited to attend the Spring GED Graduation ceremony at 7 p.m. Thursday at the Juniata-Mifflin Counties Area Vocational-Technical School cafeteria. Call 248-4942 for more information.

Tournament slated

The Lewistown Slo-Pitch League is sponsoring a double-elimination tournament May 31 and June 1. Prize money and trophies to be awarded. Team can include pick-ups. For more information, call Harry Mannino at 248-7232 or Glenn Ruble at 543-5290.

Mini flea market

The I.H.S. Sunday School Class is planning a mini flea market, bake

59 Are In GED Class

The GED Class of '86 included 59 people in the community who have achieved a high school diploma through the General Education Development testing program. For one reason or another these individuals found it necessary to leave high school either recently or years ago. A variety of reasons brought these students back to school. After participating in Adult Basic Education or General Education Development classes at the Adult Education Tuscarora Intermediate Unit Center at the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School, these 59 students tested and passed their GED exams. They received a high school diploma from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

In honor of the Adult Center's most recent graduates, a ceremony took place on Thursday, May 29, at the Vo-Tech School. Over 100 people attended including graduates, family, friends, visitors and staff. The event was co-sponsored by the GED Alumni Association, the Job Training Office and the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit.

Speakers at the graduation included: Dr. Dale Heller, executive director, Tuscarora Intermediate Unit; Carol Molek, supervisor/instructor at the Adult Center; and Atha Workinger, GED alumna.

In addressing the graduates Ms. Workinger expressed the feelings shared by so many alumni of the GED program: "We realize now how important a high school education is and we will be sure that our children also know how important it is, so that they will be determined to finish high school."

For the first time as part of the graduation ceremony, an Adult Student of the Year was honored. The selected student for 1986 is Margaret Williams. The presentation of the award was made by Kenneth Calkin, Industry/Education coordinator for the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit. Ms. Williams was selected on the basis of her hard work, dedication in her goal of achieving a GED diploma and also for her achievements since receiving her diploma. A plaque with Ms. Williams' name will hang in the Adult Center of the Vo-Tech School.

Each of the 59 graduates received a "Certificate of Completion" and congratulations during the ceremony. Following these presentations refreshments and socializing added to the festive atmosphere.

The May 29 graduation was the fourth event of this kind since the GED program began at the Vo-Tech School in February 1984. Since this time 194 students have graduated from the programs. The GED Alumni Association, which was established this year, is a support and service community organization with over 200 members. For information about the Adult Center's programs or the GED Alumni Association call 248-4942.

The following is the list of the 59 graduates. Anna Allison, Lewistown; Kay Auman, Lewistown; Bob Baker, Lewistown; Walter Bell, Lewistown; Margaret Betlyon, Burnham; Guy Bilger, Lewistown; Mary Bilger, Lewistown; Connie Bishop, Lewistown; Judy Bishop, Granville; Steve Byler, Belleville; Connie Clinger, Lewistown; Darwin Collins, Lewistown; Brenda DeArment, Lewistown; Diane Decker, Milroy; Linda Decker, Milroy; Evelyn Dobson, McClure; Sandra Eversole, Lewistown; Ed Feitman, Lewistown; Dixie Forshey, Lewistown; Eugene Gerber, Lewistown; Katherine Goss, Lewistown; Sandy Goss, Lewistown; Marie Grose, Granville; Wendy Haines, Milroy; Robin Heidler, Lewistown; Louraine Hesser, Reedsville; Karen Hoar, Burnham; Betty Searer Jones, Florida; Steve Kephart, Lewistown; Holly Knarr, Lewistown; Tina Koepper, Yeagertown; Mid Kohler, Burnham; Deb Kurtz, Burnham; Mary Ann Laub, Lewistown; Mary McConahy, Lewistown; Andrew J. Miller, Belleville; Janice Miller, Lewistown; Frank Morgan, Lewistown; Diane Parson, Lewistown; Earl Pecht, Milroy; Fred Price, Lewistown; Leo Pupo, Lewistown; Carlos Reyes, Lewistown; Henry Ritter, McClure; Deb Sausser, Milroy; Donald Shirk, Lewistown; Carolyn Shoop, Reedsville; Gary Snook, Burnham; Phyllis Snook, Burnham; Janie Snyder, Lewistown; Betty Spagnoletti, Reedsville; Carl Thomas, Belleville; Marvin Truscott, Lewistown; Louetta Walker, Milroy; Teree Weader, McClure; Carolyn White, McVeytown; Scott Wolfgang, Burnham; Travis Woods, McVeytown; Linda Yeater, Lewistown.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

6— THE SENTINEL, Lewistown, Pa., Friday, May 30, 1986

THE SENTINEL

Accent

Fifty-nine area adults applauded at spring GED graduation

ELAINE SAUER, Accent editor
KIM STRONG, Accent reporter

LEWISTOWN — The Class of 1986 includes 59 people in the community who have achieved a high school diploma through the General Education Development testing program.

For one reason or another these individuals found it necessary to leave high school. A variety of reasons brought these students back to school.

After participating in Adult Basic Education or General Education Development classes at the Adult Education Tuscarora Intermediate Unit Center at the Juniata-Mifflin Counties Area Vocational-Technical School, these 59 students tested and passed their GED exams. They received a high school diploma from Pennsylvania.

In honor of the adult center's most recent graduates, a ceremony took place on Thursday. More than 180 people attended including graduates, family, friends, visitors and staff. The event was co-sponsored by the GED Alumni Association, the Job Training Office and the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit.

Speakers at the graduation included: Dr. Dale Heller, executive director of the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit; Carol Malek, supervisor/instructor of the Adult Center; and Alta Workinger, GED alumnus.

In addressing the graduates, Workinger said, "We realize now how important a high school education is and we will be sure that our children also know how important it is, so that they will be determined to finish high school."

Also in attendance were Rep. Walter DeVerter and Rep. Ruth Rudy, who both extended their good wishes to the graduates.

For the first time as part of the graduation ceremony, an Adult Student of the Year was honored — Margaret "Peg" Williams. She was selected on the basis of her hard work, dedication in her goal of achieving a GED diploma and also for her achievements since receiving her diploma. A plaque with Williams' name on it will hang in the adult center.

Each of the graduates received a "Certificate of Completion" and congratulations during the ceremony. Following these presentations refreshments and socializing added to the festive atmosphere.

The May 29 graduation was the fourth event of this kind since the GED program began at the vo-tech in February 1984. Since this time 194 students have graduated from the programs.

The GED Alumni Association which was established this year is a support and service community organization with over 200 members.

For information about these programs, call 248-4942.

The following is the list of the honor students:

Margaret Bellyan, Burnham; Connie Bishop, Lewistown; Steve Byler, Belleville; Diane Decker, Milroy; Eugene Gerber, Lewistown; Katherine Goss, Lewistown; Marie Grose, Granville; Wendy Haines, Milroy; Robin Hendler, Lewistown; Mary Ann Laub, Lewistown; Frank Morgan, Lewistown; Diane Parson, Lewistown; Carolyn Sheap, Reedsville; Phyllis Snook, Burnham; Carolyn White, McVeytown.

The following is a list of the other graduates:

Anna Allison, Lewistown; Kay Auman, Lewistown; Bob Baker, Lewistown; Walter Bell, Lewistown; Guy Bilger, Lewistown; Mary Bilger, Lewistown; Judy Bishop, Granville; Connie Clinger, Lewistown; Darwin Collins, Lewistown; Brenda DeArment, Lewistown; Linda Decker, Milroy; Evelyn Dobson, McClure; Sandra Eversole, Lewistown; Ed Feltman, Lewistown; Dixie Forshey, Lewistown; Sandy Goss, Lewistown; Lauraine Hasser, Reedsville; Karen Hoar, Burnham; Betty Searer Jones, Florida; Steve Kephart, Lewistown; Holly Knarr, Lewistown; Tina ..nepper, Yeagertown; Mid Kohler, Burnham; Deb Kurtz, Burnham; Mary McConahy, Lewistown; Andrew J. Miller, Belleville; Janice Miller, Lewistown; Earl Pecht, Milroy; Fred Price, Lewistown; Leo Pupo, Lewistown; Carlos Reyes, Lewistown; Henry Ritter, McClure; Deb Sausser, Milroy; Donald Shirk, Lewistown; Gary Snook, Burnham; Janie Snyder, Lewistown; Betty Spagnoletti, Reedsville; Carol Thomas, Belleville; Marvin Truscott, Lewistown; Louella Walker, Milroy; Terce Weader, McClure; Scott Wolfgang, Burnham; Travis Woods, McVeytown; Linda Yeater, Lewistown.

Spring Graduation publicity

Good evening!

FYI

All GED Alumni and supporters of adult education are invited to attend the Spring GED Graduation ceremony at 7 p.m. Thursday at the Juniata-Mifflin Counties Area Vocational-Technical School cafeteria. Call 248-4942 for more information.

* Local Fresh Air Fund representatives are looking for families to host New York City children for a two-week vacation this summer, July 8 to July 22 or July 23 to Aug. 5. For more information, call one of the following — Juniata County: 436-7997 or 463-2360; Lewistown (including all areas between McVeytown and Beaver Springs as well as west to Milroy): 248-0618 or 935-2489; Allensville and Belleville areas: 935-5253 or 935-2047.

Forecast

Tonight, cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers. Low near 60. Light winds. Wednesday, partly cloudy. High in the mid 70s. For additional information, see Page 5.

5/22/86

GED Spring Graduation on Thursday

LEWISTOWN — The GED Spring Graduation will start at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 29 in the Juniata-Mifflin Counties Area Vocational-Technical School cafeteria.

The first annual "adult student of the year" will be announced at that time.

Carol Malek, supervisor/instructor, said this will be a person who best exemplifies the goals of the adult education program.

"The selected person will have overcome various barriers to achievement of his/her GED as well as using the attained GED for personal advancement," she said.

The public is invited.

TV Public Service Announcement -

Please advertise 5/22 - 5/29. Thank you.

All GED Alumni and supporters of Adult Education are invited:

SPRING
GED
GRADUATION
CEREMONY
Thursday, May 29, 1986 -
7 p.m.
Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School
Call 248-4942 for more information.

First annual local Adult Student of
the Year Award

Wednesday, June 4, 1986—THE COUNTY OBSERVER

Margaret Williams Named GED Student Of The Year

Margaret Williams of 166 Pennebaker Avenue, Lewistown, was recently selected local GED Adult Student of the Year for 1986. Ms. Williams was selected by the staff of the Adult Education Tuscarora Intermediate Unit staff as the exemplary student of 1986. Criteria selection is based on a student's: initiative, barriers overcome, sense of purpose, use of achieved credential, and desire to help others.

Although the staff had many excellent possibilities from which to choose, Ms. Williams more than fulfilled all the desired requirements. Peg Williams had been out of school for over 30 years and had thought of studying for her GED diploma at different times. When she realized last year that she would be denied a promotion at work because of the lack of a high school diploma she decided now was the time. She contacted the Adult Center last summer and since the program was not in operation she borrowed GED books and began studying on her own.

In the fall when the Adult Center began to operate a new Adult Basic Education class funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and open to any adult, Peg was one of the first students to enroll.

Achieving her GED was a considerable task for Peg. Because of her long time out of school she had much to learn and re-learn. Throughout the fall and winter Peg never gave up her studies and her consistent class attendance even when the weather, her family, and her full time job posed possible barriers to success. Her teachers, friends, and families were very proud when Peg Williams received her GED in January 1986.

Since Peg received her diploma, she has continued her work at Skills, Inc. and has recently been promoted to a new position. She is an active member of the Mifflin County GED Alumni Association.

At the graduation ceremony at Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School on May 29, the Student of the Year Award was presented by Ken Calkin, Tuscarora Intermediate Unit Industry/Education Co-Ordinator to the very deserving Peg Williams. A plaque with her name will hang in the Adult Education Tuscarora Intermediate Unit Center.

THE COUNTY OBSERVER—Wednesday, June 4, 1986

TUDENT OF THE YEAR—During last week's GED graduation ceremonie eld at the Juniata-Mifflin Counties Vo-Tech School, the first annual "Adul tudent of the Year" award was presented to Margaret Williams (right) ho, 30 years after dropping out of high school, decided to go back and obtai er GED certification. As a result of getting her GED, Williams was recentl romoted where she works. Presenting her with the award is Ken Calkin dustry/education coordinator. (photo by Joe Cannon)

Sentinel photo by DICK DIXON

Adult student of the year

Margaret Williams of 166 Pennebaker Ave., Lewistown, was selected local "Adult Student of the Year."

She was selected by the staff of the adult education Tuscarora Intermediate Unit staff as the exemplary student of 1986. Criteria selection is based on a student's initiative, barriers overcome, sense of purpose, use of achieved credential, and desire to help others.

Although the staff had many candidates from which to choose, Williams more than fulfilled all the desired requirements. Williams had been out of school for more than 30 years and had thought of studying for her GED diploma at different times.

When she realised last year that she would be denied a promotion at work because of the lack of a high school diploma she decided now was the time.

She contacted the adult center last summer and since the program was not in operation she borrowed GED books and began studying on her own. In the fall when the adult center started to operated a new adult basic education class funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and open to any adult, Williams was one of the first students to enroll.

Achieving her GED was a considerable task for Williams. Because of her long time out of school she had much to learn and re-learn. Throughout the fall and winter she never gave up her studies and her consistent class attendance — even when the weather, her family, and her full-time job posed possible barriers to success.

Her teachers, friends, and families were very proud when she received her GED in January.

Since Williams received her diploma, she has contined her work at Skills Inc. and was recently promoted to a new position. She is an active member of the Mifflin County GED Alumni Association.

At Thursday's GED graduation, the Adult Student of the Year Award was presented to Williams by Ken Calkin, Tuscarora Intermediate Unit industry-education coordinator.

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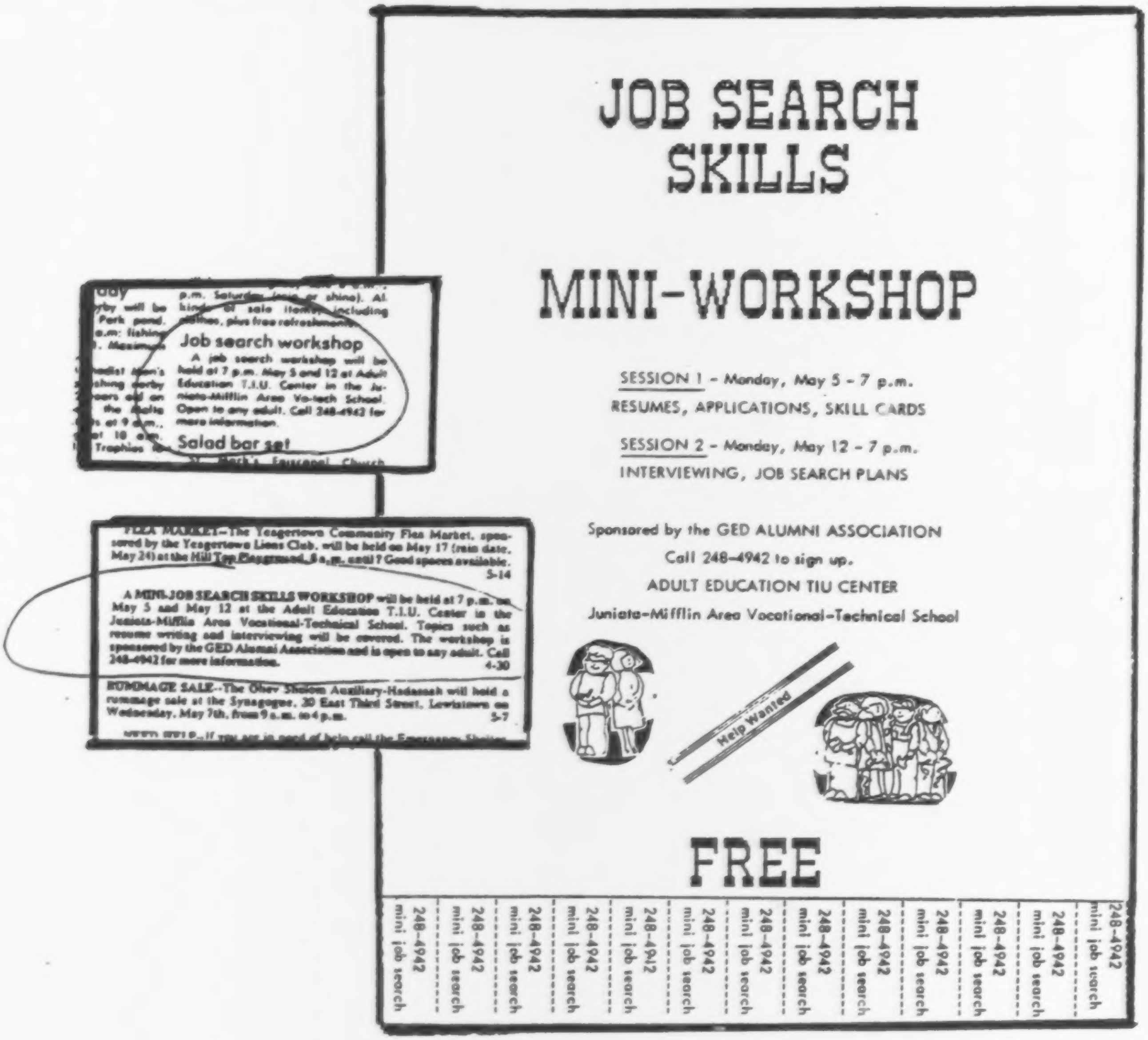
...TULATIONS GED GRADUATES

County Commissioner Bill Finkenbiner related his personal experiences as a GED graduate to graduation crowd

Representative Ruth Rudy congratulates graduates

Representative Walter DeVerter addresses group



p.m. Saturday (rain or shine). All kinds of sale items, including clothes, plus free refreshments.

Job search workshop

A job search workshop will be held at 7 p.m. May 5 and 12 at Adult Education T.I.U. Center in the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vo-tech School. Open to any adult. Call 248-4942 for more information.

Salad bar set

FLEA MARKET—The Yeagertown Community Flea Market, sponsored by the Yeagertown Lions Club, will be held on May 17 (rain date, May 24) at the Hill Top Playground, 8 a.m. until ? Good spaces available. 5-14

A MINI-JOB SEARCH SKILLS WORKSHOP will be held at 7 p.m. on May 5 and May 12 at the Adult Education T.I.U. Center in the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School. Topics such as resume writing and interviewing will be covered. The workshop is sponsored by the GED Alumni Association and is open to any adult. Call 248-4942 for more information. 4-30

RUMMAGE SALE--The Ohev Sholom Auxiliary-Hadassah will hold a rummage sale at the Synagogue, 20 East Third Street, Lewistown on Wednesday, May 7th, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. 5-7

JOB SEARCH
SKILLS

MINI-WORKSHOP

SESSION 1 - Monday, May 5 - 7 p.m.
RESUMES, APPLICATIONS, SKILL CARDS

SESSION 2 - Monday, May 12 - 7 p.m.
INTERVIEWING, JOB SEARCH PLANS

Sponsored by the GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Call 248-4942 to sign up.
ADULT EDUCATION TIU CENTER
Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School

FREE

248-4942 mini job search
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Mini-Job Search

Our Alumni sponsored job search skills program open to the public operated for 2 nights in the Adult Center. There were 13 participants in the program.

The first session included "paper" skills and the second concentrated on interviewing and job search plans. The response was very favorable. Other alumni who could not attend requested that this program be repeated in the fall.

Kid Connection

Alumni Association staff signed up in September '85 to operate an activity table at the Kid Connection. This annual event was held April 26. The award winning event sponsors free creative activities for children all day in downtown Lewistown. The Alumni Association took this opportunity to promote the cause of adult education to the 10,000 people in attendance. Adult Education and Alumni pamphlets were distributed.

The activity planned for the children was the construction of a "graduate" out of construction paper and a styrofoam cup with the message, "Never Too Late Too Learn." The response of the children and their parents was very positive.

The Alumni Association has already begun plans for next year's participation in this event.

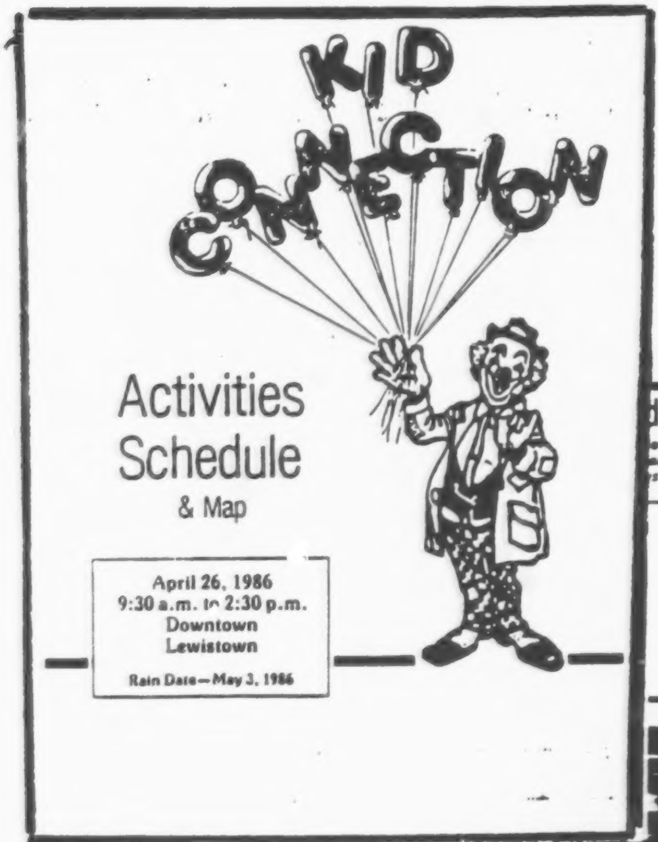
KID
CONNECTION

Thank You

G.E.D. Alumni Association

for your generous support and participation in helping insure the success of the 1986 Kid Connection

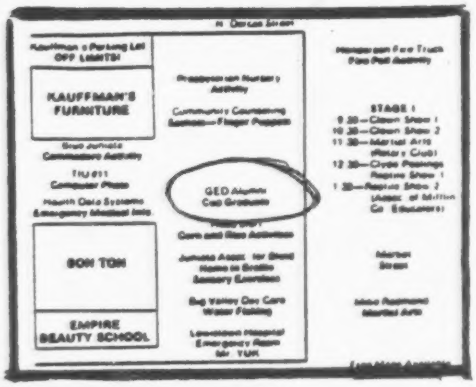
Kid Connection
Committee


KID CONNECTION

Activities
Schedule
& Map

April 26, 1986
9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Downtown
Lewistown

Rain Date—May 3, 1986

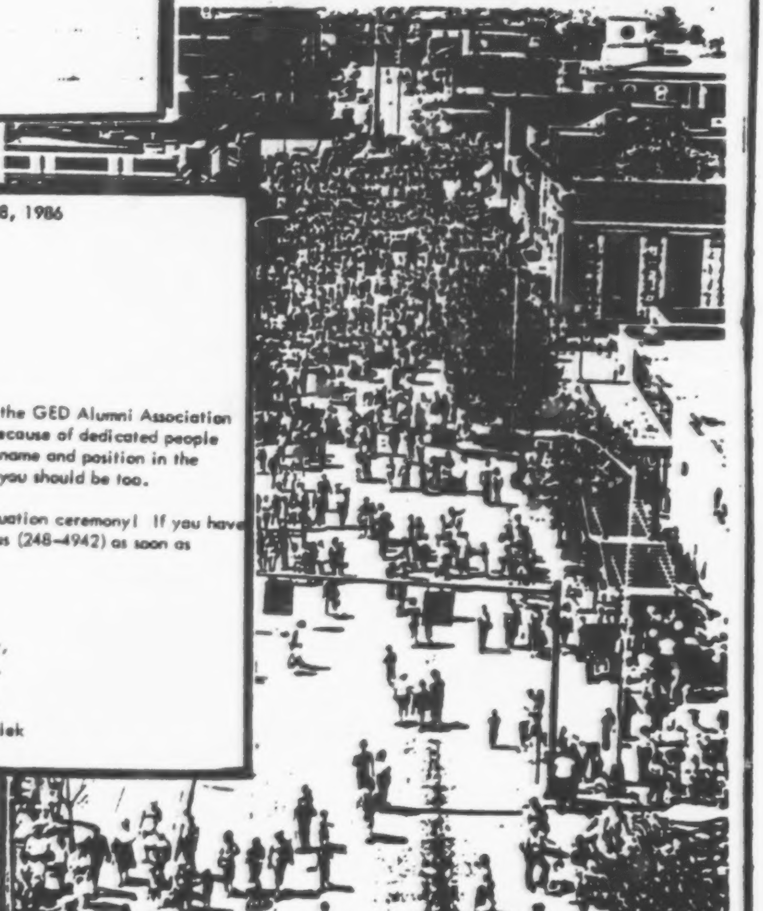

Kauffman's Parking Lot
OFF LIMITS!
KAUFFMAN'S FURNITURE
Computer Photo
Health Data Systems
Emergency Medical Info
BON TON
EMPIRE BEAUTY SCHOOL
Community Counseling Services—Finger Puppets
GED Alumni
Cap Graduate
Big Valley Day Care
Water Fishing
Lewistown Hospital
Emergency Room
Mr. YUK
STAGE I
9:30—Clown Show 1
10:30—Clown Show 2
11:30—Martial Arts (Rotary Club)
12:30—Clyde Peeling's Reptile Show 1
1:30—Reptile Show 2 (Assoc. of Mifflin Co. Educators)
Market Street
Martial Arts

d Connection

ousands line the streets of Lewistown for annual Kid Connection. Photo page inside s highlights.

County C

Wednesday, April 30, 1986



MORNING CROWD—Organizers of the Kid Connection children's fair certainly have to be happy at the turnout of area residents for the fifth annual edition as evidenced by this photo taken high above Market Street courtesy of the Henderson Fire Company's Tower Truck. Thousands of children and their parents took part in the daylong event that has grown each year. Obviously, when this photo was taken the majority of participants crammed Market Street from the Banking Corner down to Monument Square. More photos appear inside.(Photo by [illegible])

April 28, 1986

Dear Alumni,

I want to thank you for all your help in making the GED Alumni Association contribution to the Kid Connection so successful. Because of dedicated people like yourself, our organization is developing a fine name and position in the community. I was really proud of you Saturday and you should be too.

Now it's time to start planning our May 29 graduation ceremony! If you have any ideas to make this event special please contact us (248-4942) as soon as possible.

Thanks again for your hard work!

Sincerely,

Carol Molek

Kid Connection '86

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ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATIO
Butler

Alumni working at
Kid Connection '86

Pennsylvania's 21st Annual
adult education
midwinter conference
february 5-7, 1986
hershey convention center hershey, pa

A View From Mid-Winter Conference
by Alumna, Atha Workinger

I attended the GED Alumni Association Convention in Hershey in February and I was very glad I was invited to attend. I had two days of learning about the other GED Alumni Associations: how they got started, their plans for the future, and what they were doing now.

From our area Instructors Becky Burns, Jamie Snyder, and Barb Goss attended. Alumni Patsy Cavanaugh, Cathy Forsythe and I attended.

I extremely enjoyed hearing the success stories of the GED students who were nominated for the GED Student of the Year Award. One of the students would be chosen at the meeting as the outstanding student and receive the award. The one chosen was a man who was in his fifties and really had some hard times, but overcame them to get his GED diploma.

The two workshops I attended for the GED Alumni were very interesting. I found out that the other groups got started about the same way that we did: recruiting by phone calls and letters. Some had a time getting the Alumni to the meetings, one had a hard time finding a place to meet, it was hard for one group to get a time when everyone could come. But we all did get started and that was what counted.

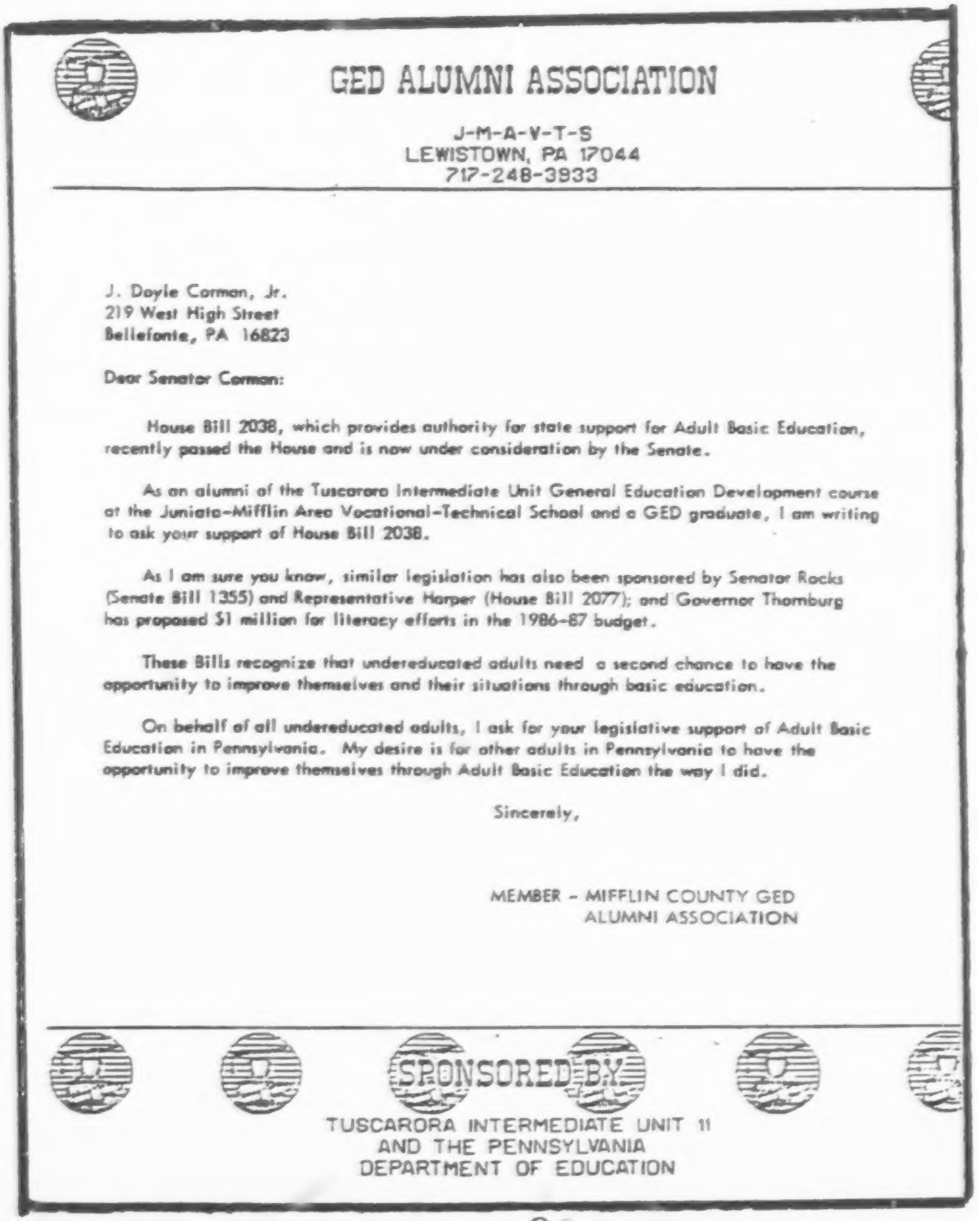
It was very interesting to hear of all the things the different groups were doing. We heard from two other groups, and then the audience could ask us questions. When it was my turn to talk about ours, I told them how we got started, our successful raffle, how we were planning and sponsoring our graduation, and how we planned to have a guest speaker each month to talk on what the Alumni members were interested in, plus our plans for the Kid Connection.

I'm very glad I could attend and hope more alumni can go next year.

Promoting Adult Education Legislation

In response to a request from PAACE the Alumni Association instituted letter writing campaign backing PA House Bill 2038, providing state support for Adult Basic Education. For many participants, this was their first active participation in the political process. Most members were extremely interested and willing to do more towards the goal of achieving state support for our program.

Approximately 100 letters of support were mailed to Senator J. Doyle Corman, Jr.



GED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

J-M-A-V-T-S
LEWISTOWN, PA 17044
717-248-3933

J. Doyle Corman, Jr.
219 West High Street
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Dear Senator Corman:

House Bill 2038, which provides authority for state support for Adult Basic Education, recently passed the House and is now under consideration by the Senate.

As an alumni of the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit General Education Development course at the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School and a GED graduate, I am writing to ask your support of House Bill 2038.

As I am sure you know, similar legislation has also been sponsored by Senator Rocks (Senate Bill 1355) and Representative Harper (House Bill 2077); and Governor Thomburg has proposed $1 million for literacy efforts in the 1986-87 budget.

These Bills recognize that undereducated adults need a second chance to have the opportunity to improve themselves and their situations through basic education.

On behalf of all undereducated adults, I ask for your legislative support of Adult Basic Education in Pennsylvania. My desire is for other adults in Pennsylvania to have the opportunity to improve themselves through Adult Basic Education the way I did.

Sincerely,

MEMBER - MIFFLIN COUNTY GED
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

SPONSORED BY
TUSCARORA INTERMEDIATE UNIT 11
AND THE PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Dropout Prevention- Pregnancy Programs

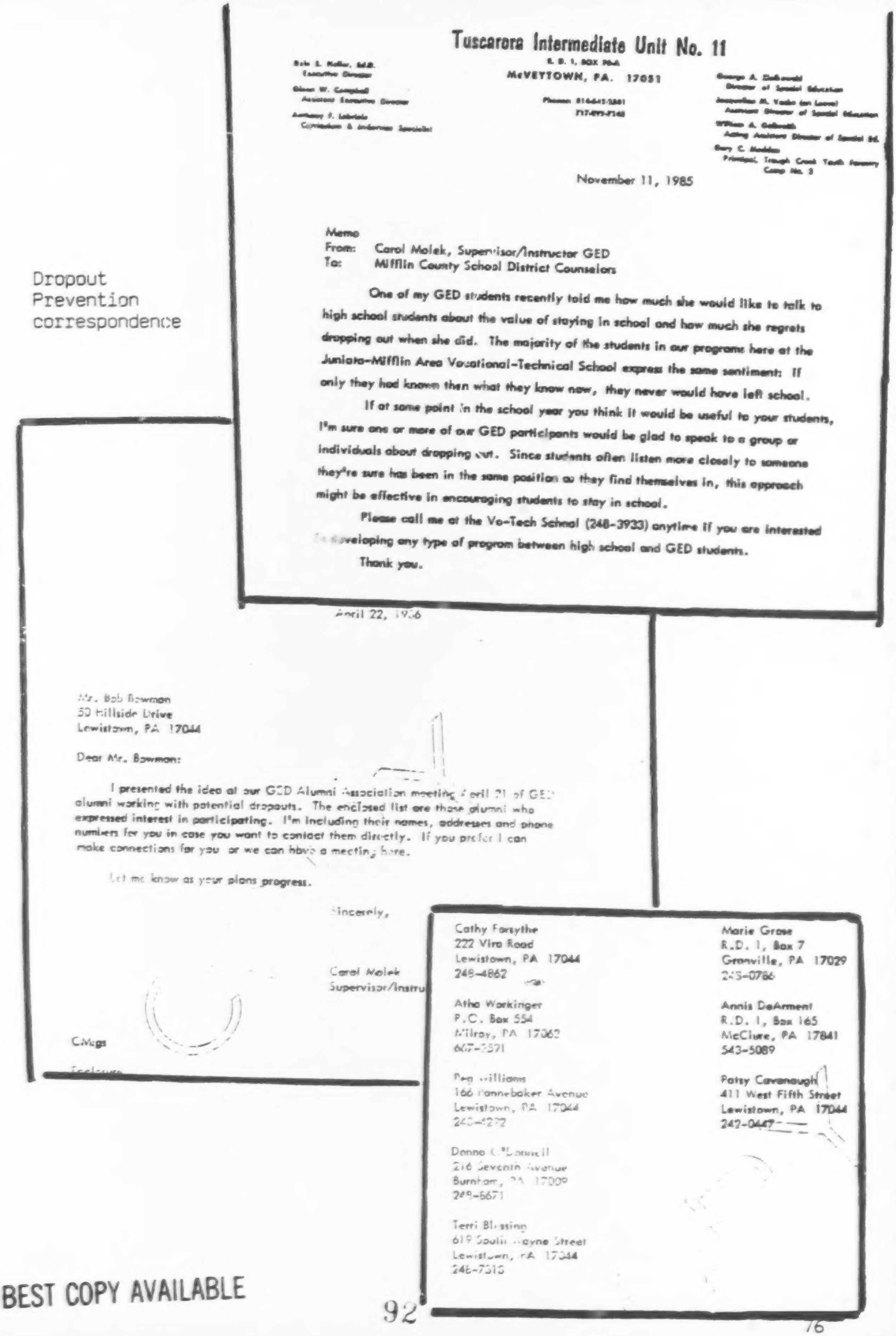
In an effort to become further involved in projects to benefit the community the Alumni Association established two contacts with Community Based Organizations.

The first relationship established was with the Mifflin County School District's Dropout Prevention Program staff. The idea of alumni working with potential dropouts came from the alumni themselves in the fall of '85. At this time school district counselors were contacted with this idea but there was no response from them. This spring when the school district accepted a grant from the state through the County Commissioners for dropout prevention a letter was sent to Dr. Robert Bohn, Superintendent of Schools again offering the services of alumni in this project.

Dr. Bohn responded favorably and a staff meeting was held to discuss the problem and possibilities of alumni involvement. As the school year ends, alumni are planning to work individually and in small groups during the school district's summer school program with potential dropouts. Hopefully those types of activities will continue into next school year.

Another program alumni expressed a desire to assist in was a Teen Pregnancy and Parenting Program operated by the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit. Helen Robinson, Director of the program enthusiastically responded to the idea of alumni speaking with pregnant girls encouraging them not to drop out of school. Since several of our active alumni did leave school because of pregnancy they felt their insight into the situation would benefit these girls. As school ended this spring, one contact between a pregnant girl and an alumna had been established. Again, it is hoped that participation in this program will increase.

Dropout
Prevention
correspondence



Tuscarora Intermediate Unit No. 11

R. D. 1, BOX [illegible]
McVEYTOWN, PA. 17051

Phones [illegible]

[illegible]
Executive Director
[illegible]
Assistant Executive Director
[illegible]
Curriculum & Inservice Specialist

[illegible]
Director of Special Education
[illegible] (on Leave)
Assistant Director of Special Education
[illegible]
Acting Assistant Director of Special Ed.
[illegible]
Principal, Trough Creek Youth Forestry Camp No. 3

November 11, 1985

Memo
From: Carol Molek, Supervisor/Instructor GED
To: Mifflin County School District Counselors

One of my GED students recently told me how much she would like to talk to high school students about the value of staying in school and how much she regrets dropping out when she did. The majority of the students in our programs here at the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School express the same sentiment: If only they had known then what they know now, they never would have left school.

If at some point in the school year you think it would be useful to your students, I'm sure one or more of our GED participants would be glad to speak to a group or individuals about dropping out. Since students often listen more closely to someone they're sure has been in the same position as they find themselves in, this approach might be effective in encouraging students to stay in school.

Please call me at the Vo-Tech School (248-3933) anytime if you are interested in developing any type of program between high school and GED students.

Thank you.

April 22, 1986

Mr. Bob Bowman
50 Hillside Drive
Lewistown, PA 17044

Dear Mr. Bowman:

I presented the idea at our GED Alumni Association meeting April 21 of GED alumni working with potential dropouts. The enclosed list are those alumni who expressed interest in participating. I'm including their names, addresses and phone numbers for you in case you want to contact them directly. If you prefer I can make connections for you or we can have a meeting here.

Let me know as your plans progress.

Sincerely,

Carol Molek
Supervisor/Instru

CM:gs

Enclosure

Cathy Forsythe
222 Vira Road
Lewistown, PA 17044
248-4862

Atha Workinger
P.O. Box 554
Milroy, PA 17063
667-2571

Peg Williams
166 Hannebaker Avenue
Lewistown, PA 17044
248-4272

Donna O'Donnell
216 Seventh Avenue
Burnham, PA 17009
248-5671

Terri Blessing
619 South Wayne Street
Lewistown, PA 17044
248-7515

Marie Grose
R.D. 1, Box 7
Granville, PA 17029
243-0786

Annis DeArment
R.D. 1, Box 165
McClure, PA 17841
543-5089

Patsy Cavenaugh
411 West Fifth Street
Lewistown, PA 17044
242-0447

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A GED Alumni Talks About The Alumni Association

I got involved in the GED Alumni Association when I received a form from Carol Molek, our GED Instructor/Supervisor, with questions for me to answer and send back if I was interested in joining the association. A phone call followed and I told Carol I would be there for the first meeting.

I went to the first meeting wondering what the Alumni Association would be like. I am not a person to get involved in other activities beside the church, and my children's school activities and I wasn't sure whether I would really want to stick with this organization or not. I felt I should give it a try though.

So I went to the first meeting and found only about 10 other people there. Carol explained that the meetings would be monthly, and what the alumni would be doing. I still didn't know what would develop so I went to the second meeting and got hooked. The second meeting was more successful than the first as there were quite a few there. We received lists of other alumni to get in touch with and see if they were interested and invite them to the next meeting. We also planned on putting together a newsletter, talked about sponsoring a fund raiser, planning graduation, working out a project for the Kid Connection. We also decided we needed a logo.

Carol said that we could really make something of our alumni association if we wanted to and worked with it. She was certainly right because since then we have accomplished much: we've had two successful fundraisers, two graduations (the last one nicer than the first), and sent people to the Alumni Convention. Some of our future plans are: speakers at our meetings, a big brother-big sister program, talking to potential dropouts, visiting the nursing homes to talk, read, or maybe write letters for the patients, going to the nursery schools, making baskets and collecting toys for Christmas, and many more things.

So you can see by my exciting list of things we want to do that I just love being a member of the GED Alumni Association.

Alumna, Atha Workinger

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THE COUNTY OBSERVER—Wednesday, April 30, 198

GED ALUMNI—The Mifflin-Juniata GED Alumni Association met recently to elect officers for 1986-87. Pictured above are these officers elected. They are (l to r), Patsy Cavanaugh, co-vice-president; Atha Workinger, secretary; Terri Blessing, president; Cathy Forsythe, co-vice-president; and Annis DeArment, treasurer. (Photo by Joe Cannon)

GED Alumni Association Elects Terri Blessing President

At the April 21 meeting of the GED Alumni Association, officers were elected for the '86-'87 school year. Officers of the association are: Terri Blessing, president; Patsy Cavanaugh and Cathy Forsythe, vice presidents; Annis DeArment, treasurer; and Atha Workinger, secretary.

The GED Alumni Association consists of 189 members who have achieved their General Education Development diplomas or are supporters of adult education.

This year the Alumni Association has been active in various projects such as: producing a newsletter, sponsoring a writer's workshop, organizing GED graduation ceremonies, running an activity table at the Kid Connection, and more. Vocational and education counseling is provided for alumni by the Association.

This spring the Alumni Association will be organizing the Spring GED Graduation Ceremony May 29 at the Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational-Technical School. The public is welcome to attend. The association is also sponsoring a mini-job search skills workshop at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 5, and Monday, May 12. Skills such as resume writing and interviewing will be covered.

Alumni Leaders for '86-87

Future leadership of the Mifflin County GED Alumni Association is in the able hands of the 5 officers elect. These 5 women have shown themselves to be dedicated, hardworking leaders. Their consistency and perserverence assure the association of a very positive future.

THE SENTINEL, Lewisto

ACCENT: on area activities

TERRI BLESSING

PATSY CAVANAUGH

CATHY FORSYTHE

ANNIS DEARMENT

ATHA WORKINGER

GED Alumni Association elects leaders for 1986-87

LEWISTOWN — At the April 21 meeting of the GED Alumni Association, officers were elected for the 1986-87 school year.

They are: Terri Blessing, president; Patsy Cavanaugh and Cathy Forsythe, vice presidents; Annis DeArment, treasurer; and Atha Workinger, secretary.

The GED Alumni Association consists of 189 members who have achieved their General Education Development diplomas or are supporters of adult education.

This year the alumni association has been active in various projects such as: producing a newsletter, sponsoring a writer's workshop, organizing GED graduation ceremonies, running an activity table at the Kid Connection, and more. Vocational and educational counseling is provided for alumni by the alumni association.

This month the alumni association will be organizing the spring GED graduation ceremony slated for Thursday, May 29 at the Juniata-Mifflin Counties Area Vocational-Technical School. The public is welcome to attend.

The alumni association is also sponsoring a mini-job search skills workshop at 7 p.m. Monday, May 5 and Monday, May 12. Skills such as resume writing and interviewing will be covered. Any adult is welcome to attend.

For more information about any alumni activities stop in the Adult Education, Tuscarora Intermediate Unit Center at the vo-tech school or call 248-4942.

Alumni Counseling Services

by Bill Ryan, Project Counselor

Having attained their long sought after goal of receiving a GED diploma, many alumni found themselves in the position of needing to identify further personal and/or career goals but with much uncertainty as to how to go about identifying and subsequently attaining these goals.

Early on many alumni expressed a desire to speak with me about their future plans. It must be remembered that the majority of the alumni are people who are very unfamiliar with post-secondary education. Many of the sessions I had with these folks involved: 1) informing them of what schools, colleges, etc., are available to them; 2) discussing financial aspects of further training; 3) talking about the possible career implications of their further education; and 4) discussing the many potential personal problems that they may encounter en route to their goals.

Several participants came to me at various times to speak about personal problems involving their spouses, their children, or their present jobs. They seemed to need someone who would simply listen to their problems. They often realized that there are no easy solutions. One bright, capable woman expressed a strong desire to leave her tedious factory job to pursue her education. However, after discussing all her options, it became clear that her educational goals could not be reached at present since she could not quit her factory job. We subsequently discussed a realigning of her career/educational goals so that they would indeed be more easily and realistically attained.

So many of my counselees seemed very appreciative of the time I spent with them. Apparently there are few, if any, "significant others" in their lives with whom they can reasonably discuss their goals and dreams for the future.

Conclusion

The final goal of the Mifflin County Alumni Association has been achieved: the group is firmly established and prepared to function autonomously in the future. The group is active, united, and has strong leadership. Officers were elected in April. Our Center's staff has every confidence that these GED alumni will successfully lead the organization in the future. Plans for next school year include:

- alumni visiting kindergarten classes directing craft activity
- coordination of alumni contacts with school district Title II parents
- coordination of alumni contacts with school district dropout prevention program
- coordination with Tuscarora Intermediate Unit teen pregnancy program
- alumni activity at Kid Connection, the award winning children's event in Lewistown
- newsletters
- graduation ceremonies
- alumni fall picnic
- informing community about adult education opportunities
- tutor training
- developing post secondary education opportunities
- local student of the year
- presenting GED success stories at meetings
- Christmas project: toy and clothes baskets for needy
- caps/gown/tassels for graduation
- regional alumni meetings
- establishing scholarship
- public speaking
- establish a reading group
- first day packets for new alumni
- further political involvement
- alumni speakers to GED classes testing week
- sponsoring runner for "Goose Day" race in September
- GED graduate role model speakers: Navy recruiter, county commissioner
- trip to show or concert
- reading to elderly
- mini course "life skills topics"
- speakers for each meeting. Topics of interest expressed:
    1) basic law
        - insurance
        - legal rights
        - medicare forms
        - wills

2) consumer information - get your money's worth
3) parenting
4) stress
5) study skills
6) pennywise meals

With the conclusion of our project we feel a sense of accomplishment and optimism for future endeavors. The Mifflin County Alumni Association is a productive, growing, exciting organization.

Internal Evaluation Report

GED Alumni Association

by Kenneth Calkin, Project Director

The purpose of this evaluation report is to determine whether the project met its objectives within the time frame, and the extent to which the objectives were met. Since the entire final report documents the attainment of the objectives, this evaluation report will attempt to summarize the data contained in the full report.

Objective 1: Establish a center for GED alumni. Evidence: A room in the Juniata-Mifflin Counties Area Vocational-Technical School provides the physical setting for GED alumni activities. Posters, bulletin boards and announcements highlight GED Alumni Association activities.

Objective 2: Meet the needs of 75 local GED alumni. Evidence: Membership in the GED Alumni Association is achieved by signing an application form. There are currently 200 members who have enrolled in the association.

Objective 3: Establish a sense of pride and achievement in receiving a GED diploma. Evidence: At both the December and May ceremonies, a GED graduate was featured as a speaker. One of the County Commissioners who attended both ceremonies announced at the May graduation that over twenty years ago he achieved the GED diploma. People recognize the GED as an accomplishment they are rightfully proud of.

A GED Newsletter entitled "Never Too Late News" was produced in the fall and spring. The newsletter included articles of GED graduates' accomplishments.

Objective 4: Provide favorable publicity for Adult Basic Education Programs. Evidence: During the year, 12 articles on GED programs appeared in the local press. The local radio station featured a monthly spot on the GED program. In addition, posters and flyers were distributed to key locations and agencies.

Objective 5: Promote the value of a GED diploma. Evidence: Of the recent GED graduates, 3 were accepted by the military, 22 went on for additional training or higher education, and 25 found new employment or career advancement.

Objective 6: Maintain an updated mailing list of GED graduates. Evidence: The updated list includes 200 members who have done something to maintain an active status.

Objective 7: Provide job search information and career counseling. Evidence: The guidance counselor employed by the project met individually with many of the GED graduates to help them determine their educational and/or career goals.

Many of the GED graduates attended the mini-job search workshops and 20 of the alumni entered the full Job Search Program conducted at the Center.

Objective 8: Help current GED students by tutoring and encouragement. Evidence: Several alumni members were involved in formal tutoring, but many more tutored or assisted current students on an informal basis.

Objective 9: Recruit new GED students. Evidence: Primarily through personal contacts, but also through every other opportunity, GED alumni have been promoting the program to other adults in Mifflin County. The ABE and GED programs conducted at the Center have been over subscribed by as much as 100% this year. The recruitment activities of GED alumni undoubtedly accounts for this interest.

Conclusion: The overall evaluation of this project is that it was overwhelmingly successful! All of the objectives were achieved, and an organization has been established that is healthy and strong and should be able to maintain the momentum on its own without outside support. The individuals involved in the leadership are energetic and committed to promoting the GED program. Efforts should be made to replicate this program in others parts of the state.